



MEETING MINUTES | September 26, 2023

The September business meeting for the Trenton Chamber of Commerce was called to order by Victoria Zahn, President, at Community Bank in Trenton at 6:05 p.m.

PRESENT: President Victoria Zahn, VP/Secretary Linda Loepker, Treasurer Dennis Herzig, Steve Wallace, Nick Lercher, Kyle Brueggemann, Mayor Andy Weh, Becky Thole, Dianne Mannhard, Mike Monken and Sonny Tutt.
Guest: Linda Brines.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Steve Wallace motioned to approve the August minutes; seconded by Diane Mannhard.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The August financial report by Dennis Herzig reflected the following balances. Steve Wallace motioned to approve; seconded by Kyle Brueggemann.

Community Bank	\$50,686.95	General Fund
Scott Credit Union	\$4,552.67	Trenton Dollars
Scott Credit Union	<u>3,676.19</u>	Share Account
TOTAL	<u>\$58,915.81</u>	

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

1. Harvest Hop – Oct. 14
 - a. We have been acknowledged on the event flyers and Facebook page for providing the music.
 - b. The Chamber will be hosting its own booth.
 1. We were unable to obtain a liquor license due to time constraints. We will be selling bottled water and sodas. Trenton Liquor & Food Mart and Community Bank will be donating bottled water. Thank you!
 2. Swag bags will be handed out. Businesses will be able to put coupons, flyers, swag, etc. into the bags. Deadline for items is Oct. 11.
 - a. Linda Loepker will be sending out an email to members with details.
 - b. We will need volunteers to put the bags together.
2. 5th Annual Business Trick-or-Treat – Friday, October 27, 3 to 5 p.m. Coordinator: Becky Thole.
 - a. Becky has lined up 8 crossing guards, and Brent Frey has volunteered. More are needed if available.
 - b. Attendees will check in at the Chamber's table, manned by Gerald Huelsman and Victoria Zann. Attendees should stay on the designated route to complete the trail.
 - c. Becky proposed a budget of \$200 to purchase 150 treats to hand out to trick-or-treaters. Diane Mannhard motioned and all approved.

- d. Flyer cost in 2022 was \$191. The Chamber also ran an ad for 2 weeks in Trenton Sun. Both will be done again for 2023.
3. Power Hour
 - a. The next Power Hour will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 8 to 9 a.m. at Hank's Bowl. A hot breakfast will be served.
 - b. Linda Loepker is working on scheduling a speaker.
4. Christmas decorations at the City Park – Mayor Andy Weh
 - a. Rich Klein is contacting Trenton businesses about sponsoring decorated houses at the park.
 - i. Diane Mannhard suggested reaching out to building trades classes to build the houses.
 - b. Mayor Weh requested LED light donations. He cited less maintenance with the LEDs.
 - c. Mayor Weh will be hosting a meeting for volunteers who would like to help with the decorations. The meeting will be held in late October or early November. He especially needs volunteers who are comfortable working on ladders.
5. Spirit of Christmas program
 - a. Sadly, the previous Santa, Paul Eilers, is unavailable this year due to health reasons.
 - b. Steve Wallace will reach out to Chuck Gebke and the Sirens to see how they would like to proceed with the 2023 event.
6. Trenton Dollars – no updates
7. Social Media – please bring any special events or business highlights to Linda Loepker's attention to be shared on the Chamber's Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Business Poker Run – proposed by Becky Thole
 - a. The event would last for 5 weeks. 5 businesses would participate each week. Players would visit each of the five businesses to receive one card for their hand. Cost of each card would be \$5-10. Each business would collect the funds paid for the cards. Funds would help cover the costs of networking events, benefiting Chamber members.
 - b. Event Kick-off would be in January with a "How To Play Poker" night; the poker runs would start in February.
 - c. Mike Monken and Victoria Zahn will research rules; a permit would cost \$15.
 - d. The Chamber will need to form a committee to spearhead this project.
2. Online Auction – Mike Monken
 - a. Mike Monken mentioned hosting an online auction in the spring; there is interest from the members.
 - b. A spring kick off was discussed with plans to form a committee in November.
 - c. More discussion is needed at the next meeting.

OCTOBER MEETING: The September business meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 6 p.m. Location is TBD.

Diane Mannhard motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Nick Lercher.