

**Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2007**

Opening of Meeting/ Pledge & Grace by Pastor Debbie Nance

In order to minimize time, copies of the last meeting minutes were distributed to all individuals. John Schmelzer made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as presented Ed Pool seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Tracy Lecrone was unable to attend so Anna Marie presented the financial report.

Introductions – Jackie Helsel, Towne Crier; Robin Mallory, Shawn & Jacqueline Radi, Carol Horvatin, Michael and Donna Taylor, AFLAC. John Bosser introduced guest, Stephanie Wilson.

New member Rich Lines was introduced. Rich owns and operates Lines Auto Service, 285 Strayer Ave. A special welcome was extended. Rich will be one of the speakers at the May meeting along with Sandra Yerian of J&S Embroidery.

The Friendly Bremen Bank gave the Chamber a copier for our office. A special thank you was extended to Jodi.

All three logos were delivered to Mike Qualls from Gene's Sign Service to design us a sign for the Chamber office. Mike has given the Chamber a special discounted price of \$240.00. Four choices were placed at each table so each member present could review. Jodi Motta made a motion to purchase a sign from Gene's Sign Service and Dee Mowry seconded the motion. Motion carried. Each member was asked to view the different designs and to select their favorite with the majority ruling. Option # 4 was the favorite choice. While visiting different businesses it was noticed that several are members of the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce. Each business displays a plastic cling on material that announces they are members of the Chamber. Connie reported that she will be taking the logo from the sign to check on having these decals made to pass out with yearly memberships.

Connie advised that she has chosen to have a member of the Chamber be present at each meeting to be a greeter. This will be a way for each of us to get to know each other on a more informal basis. The greeter will change from month to month. A thank you was extended to Pastor Nance for being the May Greeter.

Upcoming Events:

- Flowers of The Good Earth Spring Garden Party – May 20th starting at 1:00p.m. \$8.00 reservations required
- American Legion serving breakfast from 7-11 every Sunday during month of May. Donations
- Liberty Bell May 20th Allan Jackson Tribute by Doug Brewin \$10.00 pre paid & \$12.00 @ door.

Connie reported that recently her relatives moved from Columbus to Bremen. While talking with them she found that they really didn't know anything about the community. As a child she remembered her mother serving on a "Welcome Wagon" Committee. In researching the thought, it appears that Bremen averages around 25 new residents that are homeowners per year. It would be a wonderful opportunity for the businesses to put together a basket that would welcome new residents to Bremen. Home visits is not something that Connie wished to become involved in so she spoke with Pastor Nance who agreed to present this notion to Bremen Area Ministerial Association to put the baskets together and deliver. It was decided to proceed with this project.

Village Administrator Terry McGrath has been going around with Connie to the different businesses to meet each of you.

We have had several new businesses opened recently. The Chamber delivered flowers purchased from Good Earth to Scholl Veterinary Service and Checkerboard Bakery. Cookie trays purchased from Checkerboard Bakery were delivered to David McCandlish and Rich Lines.

Members were encouraged to check with Treasurer and make sure their membership dues were current.

Melody gave an update on Revitalization.

Troy Tripp spoke about the workings and needs of the Downtown Volunteer Corps. Dave Ray made a motion to donate \$100 to contribute to the flowers being planted. Debbie Nance seconded said motion. The motion carried.

Businesses asked to share in any updates.

Featured Speaker Marilyn Stephenson

Featured Speaker Bill Arnett, Fairfield County Economic Development Director