

Genoa Area Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting January 3, 2024

Attendees: Gail McWatters, Austin Dean, Samantha Gargas, Jenny Caughorn, Tim Davies, Bill Kegerize, Kim Harsanje, Mark Stahl, Matt Herrig, Megsn Parker, Cody McPherson, Heather Swander, Joe Badger, Brent Huston, Leeann Dufendock

The Meeting was opened by President Gail McWatters

A motion made by Austin second by Samantha to table the minutes for October and November as chamber has a new secretary.

Treasures report was approved with a motion by Austin second by Gail. Austin suggested the chamber send out the treasure report.

Jenny stated we had 111 members in 2023 and 83 currently with 3 new members in December. These new members are Bico Burger, Civic Theater, and Mann Technologies. Jenny suggested members should check out the webpage and see the benefit page.

Austin talked about the financial plan: The Chamber will no longer be doing the wreaths at Christmas time due to a loss in 2023. The Chamber will continue to use the current person for social media but it has been talked about to try to find a student who would want to work with the chamber as an internship. Gail has contacted the OCIC about a student.

Thomas Bergman came to the executive board to discuss the roof repairs needed for the Town Hall, Mr. Bergman asked for \$10,000 from the chamber; the executive board felt this was a good investment. The Chamber will also be asking each committee to hold their donations and putting them towards the town hall roof.

The finance committee will be Samantha, Austin, Fred and Heather. Motion by Samantha second by Gail to approve Samantha, Austin, and Heather.

Brian Huston has asked for a signer to be removed from the Homecoming checking and a new one added. Motion by Samanth second by Austin to approve.

Village: The Mayor talked about the town hall roof repair, the total cost is \$580,000. The roof is going back to the original slate roof. Ask to pardon the mess in the council chambers, the Village will be painting the walls beige and the pillars maroon. The bike path will be finished in the spring. Also there will be an open house for the Town Hall in April or May to show off the work that will be done and all of the memorabilia Thomas has collected and will be hung. The chamber Thanked Mayor Huston for his donation.

School: There are two new board members but still an open seat and someone will be appointed. Schools are moving forward with the school year, Also the school is looking for bus drivers.

County: It is budget time and there has to be a resolution to pass the budget. The budget is over \$100 million.. The sales tax remains strong, the gas aggregation has passed and is being worked on to get it up and running. The Ohio opium settlement took over 18 years and there were many lawsuits but settlement is proceeding. Ottawa County is partnering with TMACOG to study infrastructure extensions/improvements. Austin Dean asked what infrastructure would be improved, Mark Stahl responded that water and sewer investments would be needed for developments.

Community: Makers on Main will be opening a full service coffee shop, goal is to have it open in April. The 13th annual Chocolate lover fest is Feb. ? from 1-5, tickets are available. Gail reported there were 6 farmer markets last year and this event will be moved out the chamber, Maker on Main and other businesses will be taking over these markets and there will not be one in July.

Motion by Austin second by Samantha to adjourn,

Next Chamber meeting February 1, 2024.