

**Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2009**

Present: Kathy Roberts, Kari Newman, Ray Berg, Karl Racenis, Janet Larson, Peggy Allen, Barry Allen, David Brown, Christine Yob, Lisa Hardesty, Pat Vaillencourt, Louis Wilson, Jeff Wallace, Keith Hansen, Shawn Lewis-Lakin, Sharon Curtis, Carl Curtis, Daniel Lai, Bill Chizmar, Chris Kanta, Will Lamb

Call to Order, Introductions, Approval of Agenda

Program: Will Lamb, Fastener Advance Products “Who is Fastener Advance Products? – Our Products, Markets and Plans”

FAP manufactures pierce nuts and currently employs 8 people in a 15,000 sq. ft building with capacity to produce 250,000,000 nuts. It is owned in partnership with a Taiwanese group of investors. Expansion of the building is planned later as the economy improves.

Secretary’s Report: The report was approved as presented.

Treasurer’s Report: The report was approved as presented.

Manufacturers: No report.

Membership: There are 96 members of which 23 hold premier memberships.

Website: Karl R. provided a demonstration on Adobe and Photosynth technologies for the website and discussed their capabilities.

DDA: Currently working on the budget.

Old Business

Golf Outing Planning Update: There are 16 teams signed up, 18 hole sponsors, 1 putting green partner as of this time. Amcor PET will be the dinner sponsor and AVI will be providing hot dogs at the turn. Preliminary numbers show that the outing will raise 15 – 20% more from last year.

Business Expo Planning Update: The event had good weather and good turnout. There were 40 booths and crowds were up 50% from last year. Those attending indicated they made a lot of social contacts and leads which is what the event is designed to do.

Flower Planting Update: The Garden Club has planted the bridge flower boxes. Help is still needed to water plantings throughout the summer. McLennan Landscape & Nursery provided perennials to help cut cost for next year.

Townie County Hall – July 13 Planning Update: This pre-Art Fair event will draw 5000 – 7000 people. A large tent for the individual chambers will be available to promote businesses. Those wishing to have their literature at this event should get it to Ray before July 13.

New Business

President's Report:

- There are 6 movie projects that Ray has had some contact with. The movie *Flipped* will be shooting a couple of scenes in the Manchester area in July. The Ackerson Building is in the running for a local scene. Those wishing to offer their mid 50's – '63 classic car for street scenes are encouraged to be at the Legion on the 10th from 3-4 p.m.
- Council of Chambers meeting is tomorrow. One of the topics will be "How chambers are dealing with movie companies".
- The AAACVB convention publicity brochure will target 3 conventions: Electricians, Pipefitters, and Association of Physics Teachers. Manchester activities are featured.
- AAACVB website update – expanded Manchester presence being developed.
- Travel Michigan campaign on radio – Local chambers are getting involved by pooling money resources to provide adventure opportunities that are family oriented such as Riverfolk Festival, and the Chicken Broil.
- Ray is working on Facebook fan page.
- Oestrike Stadium, at Eastern MI University, will sponsor a Manchester Appreciation Day July 1. Residents are encouraged to come out for the game. The cost is \$5 a ticket.

Michigan Works – Summer Youth Employment Plan Update: Louis Wilson gave an overview of MI Works programs. He spoke of how businesses can benefit from participation in Job Fairs, Summer Youth Employment Plan and the Corporate and Business Services offer by the Works system.

Oktoberfest Planning: Lori Fordham will chair this event that takes place Sept 19.

Announcements:

Barry Allen gave a Fair Board update and reported the 30 day count-down had begun. Posters and stickers for businesses are available. The fair has lost state funding for the premiums. The 300 Club tickets are on sale for \$10.

Reminders:

Golf Outing Fundraiser - Wednesday, June 10, 8 a.m.
Thursday Evening Gazebo Concerts – Begin June 11
Fireworks, Carr Park – Friday, July 3
Manchester Community Fair – July 7-11

Respectfully submitted: Chris Kanta