

Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2007
Dan's River Grill

Present: Therese Bossory, Karl Racenis, Carl Curtis, Sharon Curtis, Dawn Steele, Kathy Roberts, Carol Britten, Pat Vaillencourt, Ray Berg, , Patty Keezer, Tom Ash, Jody Flowers, Veronica White, Gary Blades, Ed Freundl, Christine Yob, Jim Mann, Andy Bobo, David Brown, Susan Gisting, Chris Kanta

Meeting called to order: 12:10 p.m.

Pat Vaillencourt filled in for the chamber president and vice president in their absence.

Welcome & Introductions

Secretary's report: Corrections to the Minutes of Jan 8. Patty Keezer and Tom Ash were present. Sharon Curtis will head the Membership.

Treasurer report: Rent for two months is owed Village Gifts in the amount of \$50.00. Ending balance of \$2045.26

Program: Dawn Steele – Steelegraphix

Dawn spoke about the new bi-monthly Manchester magazine which will be free and paid for with advertising. Features will include such things as Hot Topic (Village government info), chamber, schools and What Gives (slant on nonprofits). It is scheduled for publication March 1, and it will become a monthly magazine the second year. Advertising rates are: ¼ page - \$75, ½ - \$135, and full \$250.

Standing Committees

Manufacture: Jim Mann discussed hosting an open house for the new business and industry coming to Manchester. It will showcase who we are. There will be a meeting following this meeting for those interested or wishing to help.

Membership: Karl Racenis had no report but has received the membership from Bob Desoff.

Website: Karl Racenis related there was no update other than the next month's event is highlighted on the site. He suggested checking event information for accuracy and to email him with corrections.

DDA No update

Old Business

Police Steering: Pat Vaillencourt reported that they are still meeting along with the new commission members. They are looking at costs to see why they are so high. Karl Racenis questioned whether the police service is providing what it should be in regards to a recent story. Pat clarified the incident and mentioned that the Village is able to view status updates of reports and the police acted correctly.

Wireless Washtenaw: Ray Berg spoke of the progress of the pilot test program. There have been some problems but it has benefited the test. 20/20 has surveyed the area to find structures that are unobtrusive. There has been a good response. On March 26, there will be a public forum at the high school. The forum will be a presentation on what Wireless Washtenaw can do for students, home business and many others. Pat Vaillencourt related that Ray has been a strong voice for Manchester. The Manchester area will be one of the first to benefit from this work.

Chamber Office: With Village Gifts for sale, a new location for the chamber is needed. Chris Fegan has been handling the phone calls as well. Carl Curtis expressed concern from the Manchester Historical Society as to the lack of visibility. A discussion ensued as to a possible location for the signage needed to identify a chamber site. Veronica White will look into signage on the Comerica Bank building.

New Business

Premier members: No information for a discussion.

Golf Meeting: Meeting set for February 20. Mike at Hickory Sticks has set aside June 12 as a possible date for the event.

MDOT: Jeff Wallace and Pat Vaillencourt have been meeting with MDOT. In the spring of 2008 M-52 will be redone. Detour routes will be posted and will circle around the construction. MDOT will keep the Village informed about timing and signs regarding the work to help keep the downtown area open. The paving opens up opportunities for infrastructure improvements. Other upcoming improvements include Hibbard St. upgraded in 2007, and Dutch Dr. in 2009.

Announcements

No announcements

Dates to Remember

- Chili Cook-off this Saturday
- Kiwanis Crazy Cash Night - March 3

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Chris Kanta

Next Meeting: March 13, 2007