

**February 6, 2019 – Chamber Meeting  
Portage County District Library**

In attendance were Gary Lawless, Helen Louise Bouts, Ken Beatty, Lee Martinek, Jeff Rinearson, Trish Danku, Joe Leonard, Erin Corely, Sara Hill, Aaron King, Dee Synnestvedt, Sean Varner, Mark Brady, Ben Coll, Michelle Zivoder, Ted Lysiak, Kim Curry, Darlene Kearney, Judy Wilson, Derek Podboy, Jonathan Harris, Judy Hubner and Roger Angel via phone.

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 by Ted Lysiak.

Board meeting minutes from January were distributed and reviewed.

Roger gave an overview of key financial items which included the moving of \$90K of the Garrettsville Strong fund into a CD which will provide a higher interest rate; chamber membership and sponsorship monies are starting to come in; Chamber has cut check for sponsorship to Summerfest 2019.

Cruise sponsorships are needed – please submit a check for \$150 or we can invoice you.

Update on St. Patrick's Day - Garrettsville will celebrate all weekend long with family friendly events scheduled for both Sat and Sun. Many places will offer corned beef & cabbage both days. Sean expressed his concern for doing a weekend event and advised that Sean's Pub will only be doing St. Patrick's Day on Sunday. Chamber will be sure to promote events appropriately as to try to minimize confusion as to where / what events are happening. Chamber will re-evaluate weekend celebrations after this year.

Eagles Club is doing a Cupid Shuffle pub crawl fundraiser.

Sky Lanes is hosting a Bill White 91<sup>st</sup> birthday charity event on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds benefit the United Way of Portage County.

Lions Club will be hosting an Adult Easter Egg Hunt at Silver Cellar Winery.

Garage Sale weekend registration is open. People can register on-line as well.

Summerfest Car or Cash raffle tickets are now available – See Aaron for tickets.

Garrettsville Idol open tryouts will be held in April

Update provided on Nelson Garrettsville Community Cupboard. They will be moving to the YMCA at the end of March. A committee has been formed to keep the program running as Michele and Mike Elias will be stepping down. The chamber board has voted to provide \$300/month for one year to assist in rent while the the cupboard gets back up to speed. The snack-pack program for elementary kids will continue.

Athletic boosters will be doing a Night at the Races fundraiser on March 29. Cost is \$40 per person / \$60 couple.

New library director Jonathan Harris introduced himself and gave an overview of the offerings the library has for businesses. Lynda.com is a great new training resource for businesses.

Trish spoke about the Valentines for military and thanked the students at Garfield for the valentine's cards which were sent to servicemen and women overseas.

Joe Leonard spoke about the Mythic Creatures exhibit which is opening on February 23 at COSI in Columbus. His sculptures will be on display there through Labor Day.

Dee Synnestvedt gave an update on the People Tree Christmas. They served 92 families, 122 kids and gave out 63 turkey certificates for Thanksgiving dinner.

Lee Martinek spoke about the chain saw sharpening service available at Ace Hardware which allows them to sharpen saws in 2-3 minutes. Last year the Garrettsville store sharpened 720 chains – Middlefield Ace only did 200!!

Kim Curry gave an update on the YMCA – they will have extended afternoon hours in Feb & March opening at 3 pm to see if the extended hours will be utilized. There will be two Amish Basketball tournaments (March 16/17 & 23/24). They are looking at fundraisers to bring in a batting cages for use in the basement. Before / After Care has 36 children enrolled and summer camp is in the works.

Jerry Kehoe invited all to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Count Dance Studio ballet Rapunzel.

Ted spoke about the International Cubing Competition held at the elementary school. Libby Frato-Sweeney created a map of the Garrettsville area for people so they knew where to find restaurants etc.

#### Special Event Dates

St. Patrick's Day – March 16

Community Garage Sale – May 17 – 19

Car Cruises –

Main Street May 25/26

Garfield Plaza June 29

Main Street July 27 / 28

Peach Social Aug 10 / 11

Sky Plaza Sept 7

Chamber Cookout -- TBD

Discover Garrettsville – May 1 – Aug 31

Christmas on Main – Nov 1 – Dec 15

Clock tower Lighting – Nov 30

Small Business Saturday – Nov 30

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am. Next meeting will be held March 6 at Community EMS.