

WARREN AREA CHAMBER MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Lunch provided by Wagon Wheel.

Introduction of Chamber members and guests, Please be sure to sign the attendance sheet. Thank you for your investment in the Warren community!

Welcome - Pastor John Boyanowski opened in prayer.

Minutes of Previous Meeting - Minutes were reviewed. Becky Souder motioned to approve, Bonnie Boxell seconded. Motion carried.

Previous Treasurer's Report- Report was reviewed. Terry Miller motioned to approve, LeAnn Buzzard seconded. Motion carried.

Spotlight Business

- **DeWeese Softwater and Appliance**– George and Cheryl have served Warren and surrounding communities for almost 40 years! They sell Maytag, Whirlpool and Amana appliances. Water treatment and Reverse Osmosis systems available. Used Appliance store at 710 N. Nancy Street.

New Business

- **Nominating Committee**- Consists of Rose Broyles, Krysta Fornal and Tammy Zehner. They will be presenting 6 names for the 3 positions expiring this December, which are Rose Broyles, Cheryl DeWeese and Jeff Souder.
- **By-Law's** - Proposed revision 9/2023 Article IV Section 5 Treasurer. Revision: The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the Chamber. No disbursements shall be made unless they have been authorized and voted on by the Board of Directors. Any expense that is over \$250 will be voted on by the membership. The Treasurer shall render to the Board of Directors and the membership each month, and whenever else they may require it, an account of all his/her transactions as the Treasurer, and of the financial condition of the Chamber. Joyce Buzzard motioned to accept this revision. Bonnie Boxell seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

- **Scarecrow Festival** - Friday, October 27, 2023. Patti updated all is moving forward. Will need help and every business to get involved.
- **I-69 Billboard** - We are still working on updating a new design for the proposed billboards. Southbound sign before exit 278 measures 8' by 20' per Tom Wall. The Northbound sign before exit 273 measures 10' by 17' 6".
- **Eclipse Party Update**- April 8th, 2024 about 3:10 PM total eclipse. We are working with Huntington County Visitors Bureau, HCCF, Markle Eclipse Committee etc. for this "party."

Updates:

- **Downtown Park** – Park is going well. WAMA is hosting an Ice Cream Social 2 pm 9/10/23.

- **HC Community Foundation** - Matt Ditzler updated the Grant Applications for Teachers/ Classroom deadline will be 9/28/23. Please encourage teachers to apply.
- **HC Council and Commissioner** – Terry Miller shared the upcoming budget committee meeting is open to all and says we have much to be thankful for in the county. Tom Wall publicly praised Citizens Telephone for working so very hard to provide internet service to rural Huntington County, Majenica, etc. He also encourages us to post all of the positive things happening in Huntington County. We are truly blessed to have many local agencies working together for the good of the County and surrounding areas. We have several upcoming fall festivals.
- **HCCSC** - Kari Heim shared the school board meeting will be Monday, 7:00 PM at Salamonie.
- **Historic Warren** -Becky Souder is pleased to announce the Community Bulletin Board is installed, thanks to the HCCF Warren Hometown Grant. She encourages any business or family to donate to the HCCF for their grants, they are a 1:1 ratio match. The Historic Warren Holiday Walk and Festival of Trees will be Friday, November 17, 2023 from 5:00-8:00 PM.
- **United Way** - Sarah Kemp shared their campaign kick off breakfast will be held this week.
- **Warren Boys & Girls Club** - Welcome to Audra Rittenhouse, our new Director! Follow them on Facebook. The kids are very excited to be involved in Community activities and service projects.
- **Warren Bread of Life Food Pantry** - Rose Broyles updated they are preparing for Thanksgiving meals. They are doing well and they are serving increasing families in Huntington, Wells and Grant Counties. They can always use our help and prayer. Thanks for the continuing support.
- **SSF** - Joyce announced it will be July 5-7, 2024 & the theme “Warren - A Small Hidden Treasure”.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be October 4, 2023.

Positions:

President – Cheryl DeWeese

1st Vice President – Tammy Zehner

2nd Vice President – Krysta Fornal

Secretary – Melinda Daniels

Treasurer – Patti Bustos

Terms:

Rose Broyles 2021-2023 – 1st Term

Cheryl DeWeese 2021-2023 – 2nd Term

Jeff Souder to fulfill 2023 term

Patti Bustos 2022-2024 – 2nd Term

Krysta Fornal 2022-2024 – 1st Term

Tammy Zehner 2022-2024 – 1st Term

Melinda Daniels 2023-2025 – 1st Term

Troy Drayer 2023-2025 – 1st Term

Robert Neuenschwander 2023-2025 – 1st Term