

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 4th, 2015

Foristell Chamber of Commerce met at the T/A restaurant in Foristell, MO on August 4th, 2015. Please note that there was no chamber meeting in July. Sandy Stokes called the meeting to order. Pam Frazier led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Aaron Baker led the opening prayer.

Minutes: Meeting minutes from June were approved as stated.

Treasurer's Report:

1) Account balance as of August 3rd, 2015 was \$3,407.92. The treasurer's report was approved as stated.

2) The chamber currently has \$521 the Ray Alexander Scholarship Fund. Kama Mainieri was the chamber's 2015 Ray Alexander Scholarship recipient. Once the chamber receives enrollment information for Kama, the chamber will disburse the \$800 scholarship.

Foristell City Report:

1) John Pickering and Sandy Stokes reported that there was a .01 cent fuel tax on the ballot for the city of Foristell. This tax revenue will be used for the upkeep and improvement of roads in Foristell. This proposal will need a 2/3rds majority to pass.

2) The court reform happening throughout Missouri cities will limit ticket revenues the courts can collect and decrease revenues by 33%.

3) There remains interest in land in Foristell, but the cost of installing utilities in rural areas is making housing construction prohibitive.

Wright City School District:

1) Jack Sanford (WCSD reports that school meetings are underway in preparation for students heading back to school.

2) There are several projects underway in the Wright City School District including work on parking lots, early childhood center completion, and HVAC updates. Jack reports that the HVAC work should be completed 2 years early and \$180k under budget.

3) Former WCSD Superintendent Chris Gaines is now working with the Mehlville school district. David Buck is stepping into the Superintendent role and he should do well as he was part of the process of improving testing scores at Wright City with Chris Gaines. David should be well positioned to continue the success of the WCSD.

Wentzville School District: Pam Frazier, Wentzville School District

1) School begins on the 13th of August and they are working to get the new early childhood center (formerly the Unites Services building) remodeled and ready for classes.

2) Constance Hallemeier is a finalist for the 2015 Presidential Award from Excellence in Math and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This recognizes her outstanding teaching ability and is a national award. Award winners

will be announced in the spring and will receive \$10,000 from the National Science Foundation. (More info can be found at: <http://wentzville.k12.mo.us/mod/page/view.php?id=29429>)

3) Holt and Timberland cheerleaders have performed well and are going to represent their schools in the state competitions.

4) WSD back to school weekend is August 8th.

5) WSD has recorded a 540 student increase from YOY (year over year), showing the growth the Wentzville area is experiencing.

Announcements:

1) Pam Frazier won the 50/50 drawing, and donated the funds to the Scholarship fund.

2) Don't forget the next meeting will be in September Pam Frazier will be the acting President for the Foristell chamber. Speaker is TBD.

3) Judd Everhart, former Foristell chamber member, passed away in June.

4) Ambulance district won the 2015 Missouri district of the year award and received a grant for \$357K towards gear and staff.

Guest Speaker: Rose Wilde, Wood Icing

1) Rose recently opened the Wood Icing store in Foristell. Her company sells wood and furniture resurfacing products to create textured designs on wood.

2) **Product info.** Wood icing can be applied to any type of furniture to resurface and redesign the external look of furniture. Patterns, designs and all kinds of color can be applied to refresh and update older furniture or to give character to existing furniture.

2.1) Wood icing is an acrylic latex based product. Rose created this product and holds a patent on her product. Dry time is approximately 24hrs and produces an extremely sturdy product.

2.2) More info can be found at: www.woodicing.com

3) **History.** Her business began by selling her resurfacing supplies over the internet, but business continued to expand. She expanded to a location in the Chesterfield mall and that has done well. Business continued to grow and could no longer "work from home" with storing, shipping and receiving these supplies so Rose and her husband Jack opened this store in Foristell. Rose reports that setting up a business in Foristell, "...was a breeze."

Guest Speaker: Melissa Porlier, Porlier Outdoor Advertising

1) Porlier business has been in business for 27 years, many of those years with offices in the Foristell area. Melissa has been working with her dad's business since April this year. Prior to working with Porlier, her background was in online marketing and advertising, digital marketing and online paid searches.

2) Porlier company is starting to expand billboard presence in several locations. The future of billboards will be towards digital signage, but there will always be demand for traditional billboards. State and city regulations will govern what the digital billboards will look like, how bright they are, etc.

Meeting attendees this month:

Sandy Stokes, City of Foristell

Marvin Rodenbaugh, Costco

Aaron Baker, Foristell church of Christ

Pam Frasier, Wentzville School District

Rich Paton, Foristell Christian Church

Jack Sanford, Wright City School District

Jackie Stewart, Warren County Ambulance District

Phil Reid, Westbound Real Estate

Peg Alexander, Shiloh UMC

Ken Orf, Foristell Storage

Kurt Daniels, Cochran Engineering

Melissa Porlier, Porlier Outdoor Advertising

John D. Pickering, City of Foristell

Rose & Jack Wilde, Wood Icing Co.

Nancy Hance, First State Community Bank

Submitted by Aaron Baker 8/13/2015