

# Foristell Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, November 1st, 2016

Foristell Chamber of Commerce met at the T/A restaurant in Foristell, MO on November 1st, 2016. Melissa Porlier called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jack Chemin led the prayer to open our meeting.

**Minutes:** Meeting minutes from October were approved as stated.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pam Wiss

1. Account balance as of November 1st, 2016 was \$2,361.33, which includes \$85 in scholarship funds.
2. Treasurer's report from October was approved as stated.
3. Two new members: WestPlex Community church and Right at Home.

**Foristell City Report:** Sandy Stokes

1. Quiet in Foristell right now. Polling place will be busy next week.
2. Zoning issues regarding outdoor storage are under discussion.
3. Dollar General is looking at property on Hwy T, but is moving ahead slowly.

**Wright City School District:** Jack Sanford

1. On fall break currently.
2. Winter sports are getting ready to start.
3. Teachers are doing training and professional development.

**Wentzville School District:** Pam Frazier

1. Boone Trail Elementary is celebrating Boone Trail Days with period era activities.
2. Elementary schools are under construction.
3. Liberty gym construction is nearly complete.
4. School boundaries and redistricting are under discussion. Middle and HS boundaries will remain the same. Formal approval for elementary school boundaries should come in December.

**Old Business:**

1. Foristell Scholarship Basket
  - a. Items have been brought in for the basket.
  - b. Michelle is coordinating the basket items and decoration. Scholarships benefit students in the Foristell zip code.
  - c. Tickets are 6 for \$5 or \$1 each. Chamber members need to get their money to Michelle or Pam by December.
  - d. Tickets that have been filled out can be dropped off at City Hall, along with canned goods for the food pantry.
2. Food Pantry
  - a. Opening is Thursday 11/3/2016. Food pantry hours will be (9-noon; 4-7pm).
3. Check was presented to Wentzville Child Center as a donation to support the work they do.
4. Election of officers and board members
  - a. We discussed nomination of board members and officers
  - b. Board members for 2017:
    - i. Marvin, Melissa, Peggy, Jackie, Pam
  - c. Officers for 2017:

- i. Aaron agreed to serve as Secretary
- ii. Pam as Treasurer

**New Business:**

1. Food Pantry grand opening
  - a. Best way to bring donations: contact Westplex or Sandy.
  - b. Aaron will schedule a time that will work for an opening for the Food Pantry.
    - i. Scheduled: Official opening of the food pantry will be Thursday, 11/17/16 at 8:30 am.
2. Business card box
  - a. We have a slot for each person for networking
  - b. Each member is allowed to put their cards into the box. Members are encouraged to take cares to help network with Chamber members.

**Guest Speaker:** Sissy Swift, Child Center. [www.thechildcenter.com](http://www.thechildcenter.com)

1. They are not a child care center, but a child advocacy center. They help Children and non-offending families after traumatic events.
2. They have a child-friendly site to interview children when there is an event that happens. They try to put the child at ease and open up in order to find the facts of the event.
3. They are one of 15 in the state of Missouri. The Wentzville site serves 14 counties.
4. Their child advocacy members are trained on a national level to do interviews and get necessary information.
5. Children are in a separate room with a child forensic interview, away from police, prosecuting attorneys, etc to reduce trauma on the children.
6. Interviewers cannot provide comfort or emotion to the child. The kids can have the dog with them to comfort the dog. Kids are given a little Rica puppy to take with them as a help and comfort during the trying time.
7. Every child is referred to a medical SAFE program and mental health professional.
8. They also focus on prevention and education in school and community events to avoid physical or sexual abuse. Their training also helps adults and parents.
9. 95% of sexual molestation is someone the child knows and/or loves.
10. Results: 77% of interviews were allegations of a sexual nature. They did 503 interviews of children. They expect 600 interviews in 2016. Possible cause of increase is that kids now feel able to tell. Social media has made it easier to feel close to someone you don't know. Many perpetrators have been perpetrated upon themselves.
11. Funding is through grants (80%) and fundraisers (20%).

**Announcements:**

1. 50/50 winner: Aaron Baker. Money donated to scholarship program.
2. Mystery dinner theater upcoming; the play is Alice in Zombie Land (Marvin R & Allen Rone). Held at Andrews academy in Dardenne prairie. 11/4, 11/5 catered meal with a fun time, sponsored by the Western St Charles Chamber of Commerce.

**Attendees:**

Michelle Smith, ReMax Edge	Matt Jaspering, PWSD2 St Charles	Pam Wiss, Missouri Bank
Peggy Alexander, Shiloh UMC	John D Pickering, City of Foristell	Frank Eggering, Foristell Storage
Marvin Rodenbaugh, Costco	Sissy Swift, The Child Center	Pam Frazier, WSD
Jackie Stewart, WCAD	Heather Cushing, Right at Home	Jack Sanford, WCSD
Aaron Baker, Foristell church of Christ	Melissa Porlier, Porlier Outdoor Advertising	
Mike Kelly, Westplex Community church	Jack Chemin, Westplex Community church	