

Foristell Chamber of Commerce

Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2013

The Foristell Chamber of Commerce met at Porlier Outdoor Advertising in Foristell, MO on December 3, 2013. The meeting was called to order by President Mark Van Dillen. Judson Eberhardt gave the invocation. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Van Dillen. Introductions were made around the table by members present: Peg Alexander, Ray Alexander, Rev. Aaron Baker, Rev. Christiane Batjer, Kurt Daniels, Judson Eberhardt, Chris Gains, Nancy Hance, Laura McLane, John Pickering, Phil Reid, Marvin Roenbaugh, Jack Sanford, Shannon Smart, Michelle Smith, Sandy Stokes, and Mark Van Dillen. Guest: Henry Rentz, our speaker for today.

**Minutes:** Meeting minutes from November 3<sup>rd</sup> were mailed to the members They were approved with three additions: \$200.00 donated to the City of Foristell for the Holiday Party, \$200.00 donated to Sparrow's Nest Maternity Home in O'Fallon and \$100.00 donation to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry at the Foristell Christian Church.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Hance reported that the account balance as of December 3<sup>rd</sup> is \$2,580.32. Treasurer's report was approved.

**City Report:** Sandy Stokes reminded everyone that the Holiday Open House sponsored by the City of Foristell and the Chamber of Commerce will be held on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> at City Hall from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. She thanked the Chamber for the \$200.00 donation. The Toy drive and senior gifts will be held for the Salvation Army again this year. Free raffle tickets for the City's gift basket were sent to Foristell residents only along with their invitation to the Open House. There will be a food drive to help stock the shelves with non-perishable food items at Our Shepherd's Food Pantry located at the Foristell Christian Church. Donation barrels will be placed in the City Hall lobby through December 13<sup>th</sup>. Sandy reported that there has not been a lot of activity at City Hall, although there have been some inquiries about residential homes and lots. The question was brought up about a potential overpass at Cotton Road. Funds are not available at this time.

**Wright City School District:** Chris Gaines reported that things are going well in general, but a very sad situation has occurred. One of their students, Doug Lewis was killed in a one man hunting accident this past Sunday. No one knows exactly what happened. The boy's parents and relatives are well known in the Wright City/Warrenton area and it has been a terrible shock to the students and others that know the family. Grief Counselors have been made available to the students and faculty.

**Wentzville School District:** No report this month. No representative present.

**Guest Speaker:** Henry Rentz, owner and President of The Missouri Valley Renewable Energy Company, gave a very interesting and informative presentation on Solar Energy. He runs a family farm in the Herman area, and actually got into the Renewable Energy business out of necessity to have electric to keep his farm running during power outages. When power would go out, he would run generators to keep his electrical equipment running which became expensive and time consuming. Consequently he investigated solar energy, and had a hard time getting much information because there wasn't much to be had in Missouri. He managed to gather information from other states and became a pioneer for solar in Missouri. He gave statistics on costs and efficiency of solar and the practicality of installing solar panels.

**Old Business:** We are still in need of donations for the Chamber's gift basket to be raffled off at the Holiday Open House on Friday evening December 13<sup>th</sup>. These can be dropped off to Shannon Smart at Porlier, or contact Michelle Smith. Tickets for the raffle are still available now for members to sell, and will be sold the evening of the Open House. The funds from the raffle support our Scholarship Fund. We currently have \$300.00 in the fund. We voted to donate a \$50.00 gas card from the Chamber to be put in our basket.

The election of Officers for 2014 was held and the slate was approved after nominations from the floor were offered with no other nominees. The list of Officers is as follows: President- Phil Reid, Vice President-Chris Gaines, Secretary- Ray Alexander, and Treasurer-Nancy Hance.

Directors: Richard Payton, Marvin Rodenbaugh, Jack Sanford, and Michelle Smith. Mark Van Dillen will also serve on the Board as Past President.

### **Announcements**

Marvin Rodenbaugh announced that the Wentzville Christian Church will be presenting “Out Of The Box Christmas” play on Sunday evening December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Phil Reid announced that there will be a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Dance held at the Wright City Lions Club on Friday Evening January 10, 2014. A table of 10 can be purchased for \$500.00. This will be waiter served. The regular dinner price is \$35.00 per person and is a buffet. Dance only is \$5.00 per person. Contact Phil Reid or Michelle Smith for tickets.

The fifty-fifty drawing was won by Peggy Alexander for \$2.00 which she donated to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday January 7, 2014. The guest speaker will be Pat Sullivan, Executive Vice President of the Greater St. Louis Home Builders Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Alexander