

**Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2008**

Present: Kari Newman, Ray Berg, Karl Racenis, Janet Larson, Dianne Schwab, Jeff Wallace, Jim Mann, Kathy Roberts, Carl Curtis, Sharon Curtis, Chris Fegan, Bill Chizmar, Daniel Lai, Pat Fielder, Gary Paul, Debie Johnson, Shawn Lewis-Laken, Jesse O' Jack, John Manor, Chris Kanta

Called to Order: 12:15

Welcome and Introductions

Program: Saline Craft Show – An Overview of the Saline Crafts Show and Manchester's Participation, Cheryl Hoefft

This show is held at the Saline Middle School and draws a significant number of participant and crafters. In the past, merchants have purchased advertising in the craft show magazine. Many businesses have used the business card size for a cost of \$80. Those interested are encouraged to get in by July 25.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept: Kari N. Second: Chris F.

Treasurers Report: Beginning balance: \$5928.90 Ending: \$7,488.15 Motion to accept the report Jeff W. Second: Carl R.

Manufacturers: No report

Membership: Current membership is 96. If you know anyone else that would like to join, please contact them.

Website: The website is receiving 2000 hits.

DDA: Jeff W. and John M. meeting with the Highway Administration to find out what the delay is with the M52 and Mains St. enhancement.

Old Business

Golf Outing Planning Committee: Janet L. said the committee is still looking for sponsorship and teams. There are opportunities to sponsor at differing levels this year of \$25, \$50, and \$75. The event takes place the day after school is out on June 11. Amcor is a major sponsor of the event. O'Hara Chrysler-Plymouth may provide a vehicle for a prize.

2008 Community Business Expo Planning Committee: Dianne S. gave an update on the planning. All nonprofits have been called and invited to participate. There will be space for 50 booths. In addition, there will be musicians, demonstrations and activities. It is scheduled to run from 3 – 8 p.m. Meeting to follow today's Chamber meeting.

2008 Farmers Market Planning Committee: Ray spoke of the possible involvement of the Ann Arbor Antiques Market vendors to help expand the appeal of the market. Assistance is still needed in planning.

New Business

President's Report:

- There was 100% turn out for the Washtenaw Council of Chambers meeting.
- A financial review of the MACC is being coordinated by Kathy Roberts.
- There will be an upgrade to the Heritage Directory this week with current Chamber members, area organizations, and churches.
- The Chamber will move this week from the Comerica Building to the Manchester Mill. This should provide a much better location for foot traffic.
- The sign on M-52 needs to have the permit number added. Ray will get with Carl C. Issue of name additions still needs to be resolved with board members input.
- Timeline for the MACC tri-fold is before the end of summer.
- There has not been a lot of support for the business gift certificates locally. There is mixed response/success in surrounding communities. Chamber will put on hold for now.

Spring Flower Planting plans: Flower garden planting will take place on Sat others encouraged to come out and help. New dirt will cost \$175.00.

Raisin Valley Land Trust Chamber Membership request: Discussion of who this nonprofit is and their request.

Manchester Opolo: Kari N. talked about a monopoly-like game that the Manchester Community Schools Foundation will use as a fundraiser and provide a marketing tool for businesses. It should be available by Nov 1st for next year's graduation, Christmas or other gifts and the cost will be \$25.00

Announcements:

- First Gazebo Concert – June 12
- Organ Recital May 16 at Sharon United Methodist Church
- Relay for Life: This even takes place May 17 & 18
- Canoe Race - May 18
- Blues & Ribs - May 17

Motion to Adjourn: Kari N. Second: Janet L.

Respectfully submitted: Chris Kanta