

**Pigeon Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2022**

Present- Terry Brown, Karen Phillips, Michelle Shaw, Emily Nichols, Kathy McQueen, Sheila McBride, Anne Eichler, Kelly Lisowski, Amy Petiprin, and Matt Volz.

Terry called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

Secretary's Report-September's minutes was reviewed. No corrections need to be made. Sheila motioned to approve the September's minutes, Michelle seconds. No discussion. All in favor.

Welcomed new members-Terry introduced Kelly Lisowski from Main Street Family Restaurant and Amy Petiprin from AVCI was with Thumb Cellular.

Welcome our newest board member: Emily Nichols, who will be replacing our Assistant Treasurer, Natasha Golder. She has been with Nietzke & Faupel, PC, for the past three years. She is originally from Marlette and now lives in Pigeon.

Terry had us all do an introduction for all members attending.

Farmer's Festival-Next meeting will be at the Pigeon Inn on Wednesday, October 19th, at 4 pm.

Treasurer's Report-Tabled to the next meeting to review. Emily will be doing the treasurer's report for September and October.

Bills to Pay: Gift for Natasha-okay to order flowers from Haist Flowers & Gifts-will bring bill next month. Lori checked on our insurance and doesn't have the bill yet. She will have the bill brought to our next meeting.

New members: Free membership and flowers were sent from Haist Flowers & Gifts for the new business-Farmers Insurance Shaw Agency, Bridget Shaw, agency owner. Another new business is Jacks of All Trades, LLC. Terry will check into the new business.

New Business

Visitor Remarks: Terry welcomed Kelly from Main Street Family Restaurant and her ideas. Kelly said she was born and raised in Pigeon. They bought the business from Eichler's. She manages it. Michelle had asked Kelly to raffle off a wreath at her business and attend a Chamber meeting to bring her new ideas and talk about them. Kelly said we need to get the Laker School district involved with the community, summer craft shows, school children to decorate our store fronts and give them something in return by having a contest. She mentioned food trucks that come into our town don't do anything for her business and it hurts her business. There was a lengthy discussion of food trucks and local participating restaurants. Kelly also said she had a good business day at her restaurant during this year's Fall Harvest Celebration.

Future Events/Fundraisers- Katie Draher (989-635-5863) has done lots of festivals, etc. in Marlette. She now lives in Pigeon according to Amy Guster. Terry said he spoke with Katie, and she is willing to share her ideas and volunteer to help. We will invite her to present some of her ideas to us after the first of the year. Katie's ideas for next year were to decorate hay bales, the Chamber to order little Christmas trees for businesses to decorate them, Christmas tree walks through full size trees, and Lakers students to decorate store fronts.

Terry said we need to reenergize the community since COVID. Talented volunteers have stepped down since that time. Sheila suggested a hot dog buffet for children. Kelly suggested a carnival day at the restaurant and a summer activity using the municipal parking lot. In the past the Chamber served bean soup and a piece of pie at the Fall Harvest Celebration. Kelly suggested a lit-up Halloween parade in the evening. Sheila suggested hot dogs, chili, and popcorn to sell in front of the businesses.

Halloween Trunk or Treat and Winsor Fire Department Hot Dog Roast-Monday, October 31, 2022, from 5:30 to 7 pm. Sheila will head up the event. Winsor Fire Department will be serving hot dogs and hot chocolate. Sheila is planning on 300 children in attendance. Sheila said she will need a budget of \$200 to purchase hot dog buns and condiments. Michelle motioned to approve the \$200 budget for buns and condiments, Kathy seconds. No discussion. All in favor.

Review of the Fall Harvest Celebration-Friday, October 7, 2022-Terry thanked Michelle for all her hard work and the successful celebration. We had eleven businesses participate in the bake sale and the bake sale proceeds totaled \$1,500.75. We had twenty-two businesses participate in the wreath raffle. Terry also thanked Sheila for posting everything on Facebook regarding the celebration. We had a couple of food trucks attend, businesses/restaurants offering specials, and no music.

Chamber's Website-Matt Volz did a presentation on website ideas. The video was regarding a current website layout from Wix. This layout would expand more options to give our members, easy website maintenance, grant hundreds of templates, dashboard, do events, promote business members, easily manage contents, add platforms, collect Chamber member dues, event planner, and help promote businesses. It can send a massive email for events, contacts, and groups. Website members can log in and have easy creation tools to utilize. The cost is \$27 basic platform a month which consists of 50 gigs of storage space. Blog site and goes to Facebook. There was discussion that Michelle, Amy, and Matt will be a become a committee regarding the website. The committee will get back with us at the next meeting.

Kick Off to Christmas-Downtown businesses can promote on the Facebook site.

Laker Giving Tree/Huron County Toys for Tots-There was discussion. Sheila motioned to donate \$700 to the Laker Giving Tree and \$300 to the Huron County Toys for Tots, Kelly seconds. No discussion. All in favor.

Town Lighting-Friday, November 25, 2022-There was discussion of a donation of monies for the children and adult gifts. Sheila motioned to approve \$2,000.00 donation to purchase gifts from the local businesses/restaurants, Kathy seconds. No discussion. All in favor. Terry will follow up with Lynn and Lori. Tabled in the next meeting.

Chamber Membership-Michelle made up an updated member list and handed out the listing to all attendees.

New Board Members-Terry said we still need to fill the secretary position this year and next. We may need a treasurer next year. Who will take this on? What is our next move?

Event Calendar and Event Leaders-No changes.

May 20 through October, 2022 Farmer's Market-Duane

October 31, 2022 Trunk or Treat & Winsor Fire Dept. Hot Dog Roast-
Sheila

November 25, 2022 Christmas Town Lighting & Santa Visits-Lori Kemp

December 10-25, 2022 Residential and Business Holiday Lighting Contest-
TBD

December 17, 2022 Holiday Market Place at Pigeon Event Center-Duane

Other Business: None.

Terry thanked everyone for being here.

Reminder our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The next scheduled board meeting will be held at the Pigeon Event Center on Wednesday, November 9th, 2022, at noon.

Meeting adjourned at 1:37 pm.