

Troy Chamber of Commerce March Meeting Minutes

The Allen F. Pierce Free Library hosted the March meeting for the Troy Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, March 1 at noon.

Those in attendance were: Bonnie Seeley, Trisha Wilkinson, Elizabeth Card, Deb Lutz, Susan Storch, Diane Sindoni and Sherry Lambert.

The Library provided homemade cookies and water to those present.

President Seeley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and approved, with a Motion by Wilkinson, seconded by Sindoni.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Card gave the Treasurer's Report. She also stated they currently have 57 paid members, including three new members, Fallbrook Fabrication, Inc., Steve Andrulonis Enterprises and Troy Lions Club Foundation.

Committee Reports

EVENTS

President Seeley advised she is seeking any individuals who are interested in organizing events. Specifically, the July Mixer which is a Joint Chamber meeting with Canton and Troy Chambers. The individual(s) would look to obtaining a speaker and rent the Alparon Park. Robyn and Scott Cummings typically cook the meats. Also, need an organizer for the Halloween parade who would obtain the necessary Permit and file it with the Borough and PennDOT and get it organized and ready to go.

President Seeley would like to add a few events, possibly a second Tuesday, when the Car Show is occurring, beginning in May, to get more people to come into town and see area businesses. Wilkinson and Seeley are working on doing a letter to see if the businesses would stay open until 6 or 7 p.m. the one night a month that is decided upon. Maybe they could even have a small touch-a-truck event to help draw more people into town and to the Troy Sale Barn too.

With regard to the Car Show, First Citizens Community Bank will host it in their parking lot again, but it will be the responsibility of the business in charge that night, to tear it down and get the items back to the bank.

MERCHANDISE

Card advised will need to make a choice on a building or ornament, if anyone has a choice. The Grange Building may be a possibility for a building or if any business is celebrating a big anniversary to commemorate this year, if they could inform the Chamber, it would be greatly appreciated.

They have cut back on the number of ornaments they order. Sindoni suggested to maybe change to a different type of ornament, which Card will check on to see what other styles are available and pricing.

Card also advised that with regard to merchandise, they have done hats, license plates, sweatshirts, afghans and bells, along with hot dogs and soda. The last afghans and white hats did not sell well.

WEBSITE

Seeley advised that there is a lot of communication with Tami Bethune, who is working on the website. Bethune has shared a link and Seeley likes what she has done so far with the website. The next step will be the domain name and have a conference call to discuss, which she will get in touch with Barbara Barrett for her assistance.

The video on their website is quite aged. They have a gentleman that will videotape and photograph the downtown of Troy. Lutz stated it is good to record the town for prosperity and to go through each building to record because renovations occur or if loss to a fire, etc.

Bethune would like the Chamber to select a few businesses to spotlight over the next several

months. She will need current content, logos, staff, videos, photos, bios and links for marketing and social media website.

MEETING HOST (LIBRARY)

Storch said, “we are very happy to host the Chamber meeting and glad to have you here.” She introduced the Librarian, Lynn Rogers and the Library Director, Steve Bolt. There are many different services they offer and new things they are doing. The Library is a public service and try their best to be a community service for the town. They have ‘hoopla’, which is an electronic service, if have their card, which is available to use to access over 1 million objects, ebooks, movies, television shows or music. People listening to books is the top use of hoopla, followed by television shows and movies.

Of course, they have computers available for public use and have a monthly book club for adults, which meets through the summer, on the second Tuesday of every month. They also offer a Stem Program on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, on the third Wednesday and Saturday of the month, for school age children, but welcome adults too, on different topics, which are listed on their facebook page. Joy Laue is updating their website. They have a presence on facebook with the books they are reading in the book club and with what topic is in Stem program. They have upgraded their lighting from florescent to LED, which really made the Library bright.

During Covid, they started an on-line story time, for which Rogers posts two books a week. Parents can tune-in anytime that is convenient for them. People go on facebook and can sign-up to to be a member and then get accepted to be able to be on it.

They had offered a Literacy program for people to learn English. There are a lot of guest workers from outside of the area that wanted to learn English. It was moved to the County Library, since began to grow. Believe there are currently 12 enrolled now.

Of course, the Library can also provide a meeting space as it does for AA.

The Library is getting ready for their Easter Egg Hunt on April 8. Registration starts at 10 a.m., and the hunts begin at 11 a.m. There are four groups, children 0 - 5 years of age will do their hunt from 11 - 11:30 a.m.; 6 - 8 years of age go from 11:30 - noon; and, 9 - 12 years of age go from noon - 12:30 p.m. They expect 40 - 50 children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lutz advised the Heritage Village and Farm Museum will be featuring a new general store as a new exhibit. Also, they have a new website, www.theheritagevillage.org. They will be opening for the season on Saturday, May 6.

Robyn Cummings provided a written report for the Bradford County Tourism, since she is attending the Toronto Bike Summit to present the Endless Mountain Gravel Bikepacking Route and other outdoor recreation opportunities in Bradford County. Regarding the Gravel Bike Loop, if would like to learn more about being a bike friendly business, go to “emheritage.org”, and click on Become a Bike-Friendly Business in the Endless Mountains/Endless Mountains Heritage Region.

Also, the second digital passport, “Museums Uncorked”, will be launched within the next couple weeks. It highlights local wineries, breweries, distilleries and museums. Like the “Hungry Hiker”, once you download the passport and check-in at the required number of locations, you’ll have a stainless steel wine tumbler sent to you. For the best option, download both on the website, “visitbradfordcounty.com”.

Cummings also wanted to remind everyone to add your event to their website’s calendar of events.

On March 10, there will be a grant workshop held at the Dietrich Theatre in Tunkhannock, with a virtual option offered as well. This workshop is held by EMHR, with about ten speakers discussing available grant funds and tips for successful applications. It is free but you must register at “https://link.edgepilot.com/s/c6b0f135/_DnfZV83bE25dzwkcwzU6Q?u=http://222.emheritage.org/”.

The BC Travel Guide is out. It can be mailed to you or digitally downloaded from the website, "www.visitbradfordcounty.com", or contact Cummings if you would like them available in your location.

Troy Sale Barn is planning on the Farmer's Market and has archery on Wednesday evenings. On March 11, they will be having a food/music event with the Bluebird Food Truck and music provided by Chasing Rabbits.

The Troy Rotary Club will be having the armchair races on Saturday, March 11.

Lambert advised "Goodies For Our Troops" is being collected at the Union Township building, the Canton Independent Sentinel office and the Troy Vets Club. She will email a Flyer to Seeley for her to email out to the businesses.

Bus. Announcement

Seeley advised there is a new nail salon that opened in the old Penny Saver building.

New Business

Received a thank you note from the Troy Pool for their donation.

Seeley and Wilkinson would like to let the community know when they write a check out to an organization, showing what Troy Chamber does, by taking a photo with them. Wilkinson said, "one of the questions I get asked a lot is what do we do to give back to the community, so I think have to promote that a little bit so people know we are active and are trying to support the Troy community."

The meeting was adjourned and the next meeting will be held at NTSWA on Wednesday, April 5 at noon.