



**Smithville Chamber of Commerce
Membership Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2019
Smithville United Methodist Church
Sponsored by Cowell James Forge Insurance and Sumner One**

Prior to the meeting starting, the Smithville High School SWAT team showed their latest robot and told about their program. They have once again qualified to compete at the national competition. They shared the opportunity to support them by helping offset some of the program and travel expenses.

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Gath at 12:00 pm.

The invocation was given by Rev. Rebecca Mulford and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dewayne Knott.

Meeting Minutes

The March 2019 minutes were presented for approval. Harley Morlock moved that the minutes be approved as presented, Jack Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The March 2019 treasurer's report was presented for approval. There was discussion regarding membership dues paid up at this point. Ryan Stein moved that the treasurer's report be approved as presented, Dan Hartman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Member Introductions

Chamber members introduced themselves and the business or organization they represent. All guests in attendance were also introduced and welcomed.

Program: Sponsored by Cowell James Forge Insurance Group and Sumner One

Scott Pearson of Cowell James Forge introduced Deena James, President of Cowell James Forge. Deena spoke briefly of her company and then mentioned being a part of Accelerant, a business networking group that has been a valuable networking organization. She introduced Carl Little of Sumner One, who also was a member of Accelerant.

Carl shared the history and successes of Sumner One, which is a copier sales company that started in 1955. They are headquartered in St. Louis but have about 125 employees in the Kansas City area. He and his fellow employee Stacy shared how the industry is moving from paper copies toward electronic documentation. Therefore, a current focus at Sumner One is on document management, which is part of their holistic office management consultation offering.

Executive Director Report – Carol Noecker

New members announced were Kathy Macken with Clay County Children’s Fund and Eric Craig Real Estate.

A ribbon cutting was held at Ladoga Ridge Winery to showcase their new Hearth Room. There will also be a ribbon cutting for Dennis Brewer State Farm Agency at his new location in Major Mall on April 24th.

The Community Easter Egg Hunt will be April 13th at 10:00 sharp. There will be various activities offered before the hunt starts. Thank you to Martha at ABC 123 for filling the eggs.

“Volunteer of the Month” - Carol recognized Cheryl Taylor. Cheryl helps behind the scenes at numerous chamber events. She was a great help at Candyland Christmas where she even dressed up as an elf. Thank you Cheryl for all you do in this community!

Carol announced details regarding the upcoming Chamber Awards Banquet. It will be held on Saturday April 27th at 6:00 pm at the Paradise Point Golf Clubhouse. The theme this year is “Putting on the Ritz”. Thank you to Starla for your efforts in planning the event.

City of Smithville Report – Nickie Lee

Assistant City Administrator Nickie Lee shared construction updates. The downtown streetscape project is mostly finished; there will be a ribbon cutting for it on May 11th at 10:00 am. Humphrey’s Gravel Grinder bike race will also take place on May 11th. Besides the race, there will be a bike festival with food trucks at Heritage Park throughout the day. Larson’s Cruise for the Cause car show is also happening on May 11th in the afternoon followed by a band concert in the evening.

There will be a strategic planning event on June 8th. Think tank sessions will be held at the high school to discuss what should be important objectives for the future of Smithville.

Smithville Public Schools Report – Wayne Krueger

The Smithville Public Schools had four special recognitions to share

1. National Student Council of America recognized Smithville Student Council

2. Dr. Tracy Platt was awarded as Northwest's Administrator of the year
3. The SWAT Robotics team is going to the World Nationals to compete against 450 other teams. They have qualified 9 out of 14 years with the program.
4. Smithville's cheerleaders, the 2018 Class 3A state champs, were the FOX4 team of the week.

There will be 11 retirees in the school district this year.

June 7th is last day of school; summer school starts June 10th and runs through July 3rd. August 15th will be first day of 2019/2020 school year.

Smithville Area Fire Department – Dave Cline

There were 256 incidents responded to this quarter. Smoke alarms are offered by the department at no cost to anyone who needs them. The department is getting replacements of their self-contained breathing apparatus this month. They will have a fire truck at the Easter Egg Hunt for kids to look at and to visit with firemen. Dave extended an offer to attend other community events as well if needed.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Rick Gath has taken a new position with the Library which will relocate him to the Buckner Missouri branch. As he will not be present in this community to serve, he has resigned as chamber president. Rick thanked everyone for helping him grow personally and professionally. After an emotional goodbye, a standing ovation was given for Rick as his service to the chamber was honored.

The chamber board has appointed vice president Starla Janes to assume the role of chamber president while board member Dennis Brewer will now serve as vice president for the remainder of the term. As this will leave a board position vacant, a special election will be held at the May membership meeting to elect a board member for the remainder of the year.

Special Drawings

Dennis Brewer won the cash drawing, he donated his winnings to the SWAT team. Carl Little with Sumner One gave away several wonderful door prizes through a drawing as well.

Special Announcements

Special announcements were made by chamber members advertising future events and activities in the Smithville community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 pm.