



**Smithville Chamber of Commerce
Membership Meeting Minutes
Aug 14, 2019
Smithville United Methodist Church
Sponsored by Victory Chevrolet**

The meeting was called to order by President Starla Janes at 12:05 pm.

The invocation was given by Rev. Rebecca Mulford followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Judy Clough.

Meeting Minutes

The July 2019 minutes were presented for approval. Harley Morlock moved that the minutes be approved as presented, Nyle Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The June 2019 treasurer's report was presented for approval by treasurer Dave Marsh. Ryan Stein moved that the treasurer's report be approved as presented, Judy Clough 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.

Starla recognized the many new members present at the meeting. She also congratulated Harley Morlock for being pictured and honored in the Lions' worldwide monthly magazine.

Program: Sponsored by Victory Chevrolet

Eric Gentry, new owner of Victory Chevrolet, introduced himself and shared his personal history as well as the core values of Victory Chevrolet. He started by stating he is honored to continue the tradition established by Kindred Chevrolet. The Victory ownership group took over the dealership in early July and had a great first month of sales. Eric shared sales results from other

dealerships owned as well and are very happy with the increase in sales volume they are seeing.

Victory has purchased seven dealerships in the KC Metro area since 2014. Eric had started his career as a salesman, was promoted to sales manager, and then became the finance manager of a dealership. He took the opportunity to partner in buying a Dodge dealership, and soon after started purchasing more dealerships as opportunities were presented.

Victory Chevrolet is proud to be a faith based business. They have 5 Core Values that guide their business: honesty, teamwork, work ethic, humility, and the Golden Rule.

Special Report:

Berry Parks and Adele Ducharme discussed the changes happening at St. Luke's North hospital in Smithville. The ER in Smithville will close on Oct. 31st this year. A new urgent care facility will open inside the new Price Chopper to take care of many urgent medical needs. There are currently very few patients using the ER in Smithville as most are taken to the St. Luke's North emergency room on Barry Road.

Executive Director Report – Carol Noecker

There are many new members: CPC of Missouri (Lee Hoffman), 3F30 Architects (Bryan Ruoff), Boulder Designs (Tim Delougherty), ScanPros of KC (Vicki Lucito), Charity:Water (Nathaniel Hartman), Children First Montessori (Kelly Kobylski), and Summit Media Solutions (Tammy Allison).

The building committee has met with an architect to discuss drawings of the new Chamber building front façade.

The Chamber cookbook is put on hold until more recipes are submitted.

On August 23rd, FOX4 News will host a live "Zip Trip" show in Smithville. It will be at Courtyard Park from 7:00 am to 10:00 am. All are welcome to participate.

Upcoming Events:

Chamber is co-hosting Hot Summer Nights on Sat. August 17th, a car show and rock concert are featured

State of Community Dinner on Thursday, Sept 12th. Tickets are available for \$10.

BBQ Bash is on Sept 28th. 13 Teams are signed up so far, promotional items are still needed.

Bunco Bash is Sept. 29th at Ladoga Ridge Winery. Tickets are \$45 each.

Citizens Bank will be sponsoring the membership luncheon on Sept 11th.

City of Smithville Report – Cynthia Wagner

The 2020 capital expense and operating budget is being developed. Property taxes are a major source of income; there will be a hearing at city hall on Tuesday, August 20th to discuss rates.

Some changes in the new budget include police facility improvements, parks improvements, a comprehensive plan update, infrastructure updates and expansion, no major road construction plans, and a proposal to add a public works director.

The strategic planning process will continue on Sept 18th at 6:00 with a “think tank reconvene” meeting.

Amory Road construction is in the bid process, the hope is for completion by late November.

Smithville Public Schools Report – Tod Schuetz

August 15th is the first day of school. There are no major changes for this school year.

Construction phase 6 has been completed with new turf on the football field and the middle school commons updated.

Phase 7 will be in the near future which will include adding 6 classrooms to Eagle Heights Elementary.

On August 28th there will be a community meeting to discuss future needs of the school district.

Smithville Area Fire District – Dave Cline

They department has responded to 688 incidents year to date including 19 fire incidents.

Average response time is about 7.5 minutes for all calls.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Luann Ridgeway announced that Clay County will have a family opening the restaurant on the dock at Paradise Pointe in the near future.

Special Drawing:

Eric Gentry won the drawing; he passed it on to Maria Looman’s daughter who helped serve lunch.

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.