

Fort Recovery Area Chamber of Commerce and Merchant Regular Meeting

The Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce met in regular session on May 27th, 2025 at the Tin Cupboard along with the Fort Recovery Merchant Association

Members Present: Thomas Shaw, Laura Wenning, Keshia Willmann, Randy Diller, JoAnne Glentzer, Janelle Braun, Eric Brackman, Amy Wendel, Aaron Rengers, Judy Wood, LeAnne Miller

Secretary Report: Janelle made a motion to approve the previous month meeting minutes, seconded by Eric

Chamber Treasurers Report: Checking account beginning balance \$5,911.51 Disbursements totaling \$0.00. Receipts totaling \$3,0600, with an ending balance of \$8,046.51. Cash on hand is \$5.00 and the Fort Recovery Scholarship Fund is \$9,695.18 for a grand total of \$17,746.69. Laura made a motion to approve, seconded by Keshia

New Business:

Chamber:

- Golf outing is July 11th
 - o Made a motion to spend \$600 (around this) for golf balls, Amy approved, Janelle Seconded
 - o Made a motion to buy 12 decks of cards (around \$25) for games at the golf outing, Laura approved, Randy seconded
 - o Need 3 more volunteers to help that day, if you are interested get ahold of Shawn Robinson at Park National Bank
- 2025/2026 renewal letters will be going out soon.

Village:

- Butler Street Reconstruction Project –paved and stripping happening today!
 - o 4 way stop in the middle of the street for now. The new Stop light will not be here until August.
 - o Brickstreet was put back together and about 100 bricks were replaced.
 - o The trees on the south side were temporarily planted elsewhere and will hopefully be put back in place after construction is done.
- Water Tower – painted with Perry Hull’s art design on the top. On track for July usage.
- Final design stage for the Water Plant and Sanitary
- New Restaurant – hoping to open soon! They said after the street was done 😊

School:

- Schools out for the summer!
- Baseball and Softball both play tomorrow, Wednesday, May 28th for tournament

Merchants:

- JoAnne had wrote a grant application for updating speakers to downtown. This was accepted and will receive \$14,000 for the project (Thank you JoAnne for all your hard work on this!)
 - o Mike Caldwell, the speaker guy is scheduled to come next week to do a final run through before work begins
- Laura had brought up an idea to do a “welcome basket” for new families in town.
 - o Not exactly sure what this would look like but whomever would want to participate can add to the basket to make new home owners/families in town feel welcome and aware of what Fort Recovery has to offer!

Jubilee:

- June 12 – 14th
- Watch social media for all the updates!
- Visitor’s center will have packets for the “Amazing Race of Fort Recovery”
 - o Please see the attached for details about the event

Community Foundation:

- Distributed approximately \$80,900 to community projects and organizations (from request) and approximately \$122,000 worth of scholarship dollars to the recent graduates

Historical Society/Project Recovery:

- Would like to upgrade Christmas lights downtown/throughout the town.
 - o Some areas include but not limited too
 - Monument Park (wreaths on light poles)
 - Light the trees downtown
 - Museum/log cabin
 - Stockade – permanent lights possibly
 - Replacing Christmas lights on light poles
 - Visitor Center
 - o There has been outside interest to help fund these and possibly the merchants/chamber could contribute as well. This was tabled to the next meeting to discuss more and decide anything.

Other News:

- Lisa Klenke, Mercer Health CEO is retiring. They are having a Celebration of her career on Friday, June 20th, 2025 from 1-4 p.m. See attached.
- Mary Diller is working on the 2026 calendar and would like any submissions for it ASAP. Please contact Mary if you have anything to add!

Laura, motioned to adjourn the meeting; Eric seconded it.

The next meeting will be June 24th at 7:45 a.m. at the Tin Cupboard.