

Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce & Merchant Association Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2026

The Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce & Merchant Association met in regular session on August 25, 2026 at Wayne Heritage Hall.

Members Present: Joanne Glentzer, Aaron Rengers, Tom Kaup, Jenni Smith, Ashley Lennartz, Holly Bihn, Denise Shannon, Samantha Muhlenkamp, Laura Wenning, Maria Bruns, Amy Wendel, Kristi Post, Adam Hyrcko, Nikki Kremer, Connor Rammel, Neal Spencer

Chamber Treasurer Report: Beginning balance, 12,202.37; Receipts of \$240.00 disbursements of \$53.63 and ending balance is \$12,388.74. Fort Recovery scholarship fund, is \$12,101.89, grand total in account, \$24,490.63. Laura made a motion to approve and Denise seconded.

Merchants Treasurer Report: JoAnne read the treasurer's report for the Merchants. Maria approved, Nikki, seconded.

Chamber:

- Attached is an invitation to a combined SOCA event. This is to talk about the benefits of SOCA and other information about the chamber. This will be September 15th at 8 AM at the Willhoff Building in Coldwater. See the attached to register. The Fort Recovery Chamber will pay for breakfast if anyone from Fort Recovery would attend.

Merchants Association:

- Asking to be able to keep the lights in the trees downtown year-round, Aaron Rengers said he is ok with that. Will put them up for Christmas and then leave them up.
- WOW – Volunteer parking is the same as in the past, if you do plan to stay for the event after your shift it is being asked that you park in the general parking.
- Scarecrow contest, sidewalks and Krenning Park will be places for the scarecrows to go.
*Registration will be online via a google form – coming soon.

Village:

- Sidewalk project down 49/Sharpsburg/Flaler Rd is wrapping up.
- New digital sign is up and going, current Connor and 2 village employees have access to it. Aaron asked if anyone from the Chamber or Merchant would want to be able to make changes, to help the ones who currently can do it.

Community Foundation: Fiscal year balances went out recently.

WOW: This weekend!, All camp sites are officially sold out. 50/50 is currently at \$314,430 as of this morning!

Friends of the Arts: Wrapped up the concert series, did purchase 20 benches to get that project started, have had some donations coming in. Was a recipient of the fair, wood hollow carving. This should pay for 2 benches!

Merchant/Chamber: The “Project Recovery” group is looking to step away / find new leadership

- They do the One of a Kinda Auction every year in conjunction with the Historical Society and a couple other groups in town. In the past this money has been used for several things throughout the town. Including, Visitor Center upkeep and bills. Tom Kaup came to the meeting to talk about the future of the Visitor Center. If you are interested in taking some of this on, please let him know.

- Also discussed were the Christmas lights. Krenning Park / in town. There are donations for this year totaling around \$8-9,000 Tom was asking if the Chamber and / or Merchant groups would like to give to the lights for this year. There is a deal with Nature’s Green to put up and take down the lights (for a fee). The chamber and merchants both agreed to give to the project again this year. and it would be a yearly discussion.

Upcoming events:

- Fall car show is October 10th
- Homecoming is October 10th
- School Starts tomorrow
- WOW is this weekend
- One of a Kinda Auction – October 18th
- Scarecrow Contest will be gearing up to start soon.
- A simple touch is having a fall open house September 10-12th
- Grounded Café is doing a Fall Festival Saturday, September 5th

Janelle made a motion to adjourn, Jill seconded

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 28 at 7:45 AM at Wayne Heritage Hall.