



AVON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Citizens & Business Working Together

Chamber Minutes November 7, 2017

The Economic Development Committee encourages industrial and commercial development along with a commitment to our existing business and industry in Avon.

The Civic Committee is dedicated to community activities that enhance the quality of life in Avon.

Let us

**develop the resources of our land,
call forth its powers,
build up its institutions,
promote all its great interests,
and see whether we also,
in our day and generation,
may not perform something worthy
to be remembered.**

Daniel Webster

Call 585-226-8080
for more information about Avon!

Visit us on the web:
avonny.org

Present: Mike Carroll (President), Steve Harrison (VP), Bruce Amey, Tom Bartolini, Debra Boisbert, Geri Brewer, Patty Brisbane, Jerry Dougherty (Treasurer), Tom Freeman (Avon Mayor), Leann Hill, Laura Lane (Executive Director Livingston County Chamber of Commerce), Tom Mairs (Avon Town Councilman), Marjorie and Herb Martin, Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Paul Tilly, Kathy Wiard, Ann Younger

◆ Steve Harrison asked Mayor Freeman to discuss last month's letter regarding the Park Theater. Mayor Freeman shared that there are no grounds under which the Village could "take over" the theater under the premise of "eminent domain." The theater owner has paid the taxes, water and sewer fees on the property. As the building is being used at this time, there are no code violations. The Park Theater has been preserved much like it was in 1976. Mr. Clark purchased the property (around 2002) for \$70,000; the property is currently assessed for \$85,000; he is asking \$130,000 for the sale of the property. Mayor Freeman suggested a Chamber group tour the theater; Steve, Ann and Leann said they would like to attend; Mayor Freeman will arrange for the tour. Tom Mairs will also try to attend. Ann Younger shared that she is compiling a business plan for the Park Theater in an attempt to secure funding to facilitate purchasing the theater.

Mayor Freeman also discussed the Village is working to improve the municipal parking lot by building a retaining wall to make tiers to provide more "level" parking rather than the hill.

◆ Laura Lane shared the efforts of the County Chamber of Commerce to promote holiday shopping locally within the County. Steve shared about an alternative to Black Friday is Plaid Friday promoting shopping at small businesses in the community. Laura also shared that Holiday Lights of Greater Rochester will be having a drive-thru light show at the Avon Drive-In throughout the holiday season; this will be similar to Syracuse's Light on the Lake experience.

◆ Paul Tilley informed the Chamber that the Zion Church is currently operating without a priest and the Zion House is closed for now. He also shared that insurance for cyber-security liability is costing a lot.

◆ Leann Hill showed the Welcome Wagon tote that she (Edward Jones) has had created. She is securing items to put into the tote from local businesses and is securing the names and addresses of new residents; she will deliver the totes to the new residents. Leann also shared she is sponsoring a program regarding Retirement Plans for small businesses to offer employees; it will be held 12/7/17 from 8-9 AM at the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce office.

◆ Patty Brisbane reminded the Chamber of the Holiday One-Stop-Shop on 12/2 and 3 at the Avon Commons.

◆ Tom Bartolini shared the Lions Club Centennial clock will be installed 11/8/17.

◆ Steve Harrison announced the Penny Saver is compiling its Holiday Happenings insert and will be looking for sponsors to cover the cost of the annual publication; thanks to Chris Quinlan and Kathy Harrison for their efforts with this. He also shared that Penny Lane Printing has developed 5'x2' "pop-up" signs that can be made for businesses or other purposes; cost of the first sign is \$100 with changes to the display costing \$40.

◆ Mike Carroll shared the first inventory sale at Studio Sales Pottery on November 10, 11, and 12.

◆ Ann Younger is administering the Avon NY Facebook page; she would like to develop an Avon Businesses Facebook Page.

◆ Jerry shared the Chamber's finances: \$673 in checking; \$1,518 in savings. Dues notices will be mailed in the near future. He also shared that 11/11 is the Rotary Auction; on 11/18 the Avon Interfaith will be sponsoring its annual Thanksgiving delivery ... anyone who can help deliver the packages should contact Kelly or Jan Cole at 226-2068.

◆ Geri Brewer stated the Avon Historical Society's annual poinsettia sale is now in progress. The Historical Society's "Then and Now of Avon Businesses" book (\$15) keeps selling out and additional copies have been ordered. She also shared the Wesleyan Church Nativity hay rides will be held on 12/15 and 16.

◆ Debra Boisbert, manager of the Avon Community Bank branch, encouraged members to watch their bank and credit card statements for fraudulent activity. She shared that a local gas station had a "skimmer" found to have been placed on its pump(s) allowing the perpetrator to "capture" the magnetic information from the debit or credit card, create a clone card, and then use the card to make fraudulent purchases or withdrawals from bank accounts; she stated that 5 skimmers have been removed from the pumps in Avon since August. She encouraged folks to always use a bank card as "credit" rather than "debit" because use of the card as a "debit card" requires inputting a PIN, which the perpetrator can capture and then have access to the card owner's bank accounts and ability to "empty one's accounts." She said the perpetrator(s) have been known to make purchases in Buffalo and as far away as Florida.

◆ Next meeting: Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30AM at Peppermints.
