

Chamois Lions Club News

The Chamois Lions Club met for their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, October 9, 2023 at the Chamois Community Center. Eighteen Lions and three visitors were present for the dinner and business meeting. Visitors included Mercedes Durham, Darrell Chrisenberry, and Sherry Starke.

Prior to the dinner, Lion Randy Thoenen led the Chamois Lions in the Pledge of Allegiance and Lion Rev. Jason Hilkerbaumer offered the table prayer. The Ladies of St. Mary's Catholic Church served a delicious dinner of sloppy joes, macaroni and cheese, vegetable medley, homemade pickles, and cake for dessert.

Lion President Lieneke presided at the business meeting. Lion President Lieneke requested that the meeting agenda be approved and the Chamois Lions voted to approve the agenda. Copies of the minutes of the September 11, 2023 meeting had previously been distributed electronically by Lion Secretary Beth Sieg and paper copies were available for those Lions who prefer paper. With no objection voiced, Lion President Lieneke declared the minutes approved. Knowing that he had a schedule conflict and would be late to the meeting, Lion Treasurer Nelson Sieg sent a detailed written financial report and Chamois Lions voted to approve the financial report. Lion Building Co-Chairpersons Dale Hackmann and Randy Thoenen were both present and Lion Thoenen presented a detailed financial report for the Community Center. In his financial report, Lion Thoenen reported that the Chamois Lions Club has purchased propane for the Community Center using a pre-buy program. Negotiations with an insurance agent are still ongoing in an effort have one policy that includes property insurance and liability coverage. Chamois Lions Club members voted to accept the Community Center financial report.

Lion President Lieneke called on Chamois Lions Club liaisons to other Chamois and Morrison civic groups for reports on the activities of those groups. Lion Michael Edwards, former Mayor of the City of Chamois, Lion Melissa Strobe, who is the Mayor of the City of Morrison, and Lion Scott Mertz, who is a member of the Chamois Fire Department, were absent so there were no reports for those organizations. Lion Jeff Kormann, who is on the board of the Chamois Industrial Development Corporation (CIDC), reported that the CIDC has nothing new to report. Lion Susan Sundermeyer and Lion Jeff Kormann, who are members of the Chamois Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC), reported that the CHPC had a most successful Chamois Day with many visitors to the Townley House. The Rost Family Singers entertained visitors and the honey ice cream sold out early. Lion Sherry Conner performed face painting, which was a huge hit with children. The CHPC also had a most successful food stand at the Mary Jane Starke estate sale on Sunday, October 8. The next meeting of the CHPC will be on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Lion Steve Duncan, who is a member of the Osage County Agritourism Council (OCAC), reported the OCAC is planning to have a photography contest in cooperation with the Osage County Historical Society.

Five items of old business, special project updates, and ad hoc committee reports were addressed.

Chamois Day Committee members Lions Dawna Keilholz and Becca Mehmert were absent but did send a report that was presented by Lion President Lieneke. Chamois Day was a huge success with a large crowd, great parade, wonderful entertainment, and a most successful raffle fundraiser to finance all events. All vendors reported good sales with all the food vendors selling out. An issue that continues to need to be addressed is the need for more volunteers. Each event to include the hayride tractor drivers requires numerous volunteers with hopefully enough such volunteers that they can be scheduled in shifts so that everyone can have some time off to enjoy Chamois Day. Unfortunately, there were not enough volunteers and some Lions and other volunteers must work all day to ensure coverage for the various events.

Lion Third Vice President Randy Thoenen reported that he has a door to be installed on the Chamois City Park ballpark storage shed and will schedule a workday to install the door and address ballpark fences repairs.

The rebuild of the second story of the Old Bandstand remains a very high priority. Lion Susan Sundermeyer and Chamois Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC) member Sherry Starke provided a brief update on the project. Local building contractor Grayson Light has an extremely busy schedule of work and has decided that he is not sure when he could begin the project. Another local building contractor, Dennis Babor, has been contacted and has expressed interest in the project.

At the June 12, 2023 meeting, the Chamois Lions Club voted to install wifi at the Community Center. Wifi capability would enhance the camera security system already in place. Lion President Lieneke agreed to call RadioWire in an effort to schedule installation and to then meet RadioWire technicians at the Community Center to grant entrance into the building in order to complete the installation.

Lion Steve Duncan provided an update on the project to install a flagpole at the Chamois City Park. American Legion Post 506, Chamois Masonic Lodge #185, and the Chamois Lions Club have undertaken a cooperative project to install a 40-foot flagpole somewhere on City property at the City Park so that the flagpole is visible both from inside the park and from the Missouri River. The flagpole has been purchased and received. Volunteer assistance to pour concrete for the base of the flagpole, to set the flagpole, and to eventually light the flagpole has been arranged for. Chamois Lodge #185 Treasurer Dan Howard and American Legion Post 506 Adjutant Delmar Mitchem have met once with the Chamois City Council and gained approval for the project and will meet again to determine the exact location to place the flagpole.

Only one item of new business was on the meeting agenda and that item was tabled until the next meeting. The Chamois Lions Club is considering a possible new fundraiser to generate funds for other community betterment projects and to involve Lions members in a fundraising

event that is an opportunity to have fun and fellowship. Previously the Chamois Lions have discussed a possible upscale dinner or a Trivia Night.

Two items of correspondence were received. A thank-you letter was received from Lion Susan Sundermeyer and the CHPC for Chamois Lions Club efforts to host Chamois Day and provide local civic and school organizations the opportunity to raise funds. A letter was received from Executive Director Katherine Patterson-Paranto of KidsSight requesting a donation. KidsSight is a Missouri State Lions project that involves vision screenings at schools and daycare centers for children ages six months and older and is one of Lions' most important vision projects. Last year in Missouri, 42,978 children were screened at 774 vision screening events. 3,682 children were identified who need a full vision exam with 870 of those children deemed to be at high risk for vision loss. The Chamois Lions Club voted to donate \$200.00 to KidsSight.

Two announcements were made. Lion President Lieneke shared a copy of a Jim Dyke cartoon from the September 16, 2023 edition of the Jefferson City News Tribune that featured the upcoming Chamois Day that was being held that same day. Next, Lion Jeff Kormann announced that the Missouri Community Betterment (MCB) Fall Conference would be held on October 23, 2023 at the Bradford Farms facility in Columbia, MO. Lion Kormann is a member of the MCB Board of Directors and the Chamois/Morrison Area is a member of MCB as sponsored by the Chamois Lions Club.

October birthday wishes were extended to Lions Jason Hilkerbaumer, Debbie Huff, Dawna Keilholz, Beth Sieg, and Jeff Kormann. Prayer concerns were expressed for those community members who have health issues to include Lions Jeanne Best, Janice Sehnert, and Mark Lieneke.

Lion President Lieneke called on Lion Steve Duncan to share a joke. Lion Duncan shared a joke entitled "Geezer Wisdom". Examples of such wisdom include " 'On time' is when you get there" and "Lately, you have noticed that people your age are much older than you".

To conclude the meeting, Lion President Lieneke shared a most meaningful and profound quote as her husband, Lion Mark Lieneke, is undergoing treatments for cancer and is doing remarkably well. The quote is "Attitude is the difference between an ordeal and an adventure". Well said, Lion President Lieneke.

The next meeting of the Chamois Lions Club will be on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chamois Community Center.