



President, Jim Keller called the April meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on April 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marion Township Building. Meeting Minutes which include updates not covered at the meeting were approved as discussed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was given by Shannon Everman. Bob Unrast moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Don Rosenbeck seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS \$168,005

Asset Allocations

Checking	\$131,943
CD's	\$15,634
Savings	<u>\$20,428</u>
Total Assets	\$168,005

Funding Allocations

Recreation Fund	\$22,395
General Fund – MCDO	\$34,228
Marion Soccer	\$9,406
Girls' Softball	\$15,840
ML FFA	\$16,736
ML FFA Pork Producers	\$8,578
Boys Baseball	\$13,841
AS Promo	\$3,818
Ag Ed Boosters	\$26,294
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$4,500
ML Bowling	\$48
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$3,395
Woods Chapel	\$8,926
Total Assets	\$168,005

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Cory Albers

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

March 19:	Randy & Joann Liette	April 2:	Dan & Kelly Koenig
March 26:	China & Rita Griesdorn	April 9:	Dave & Mona Berning

The 301 Club recently donated funds to the Marion Township, Chickasaw, and Osgood Parks as well as the Youth Sports Programs used by the various parks throughout the year.

MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

Committee Chairperson – Lee Heitkamp

The monthly winners of the Marion Township Park Raffle are as follows:

\$50 – John & Juli Berning	\$25 – Dave & Elaine Wolters
\$30 – Leo & Diana Homan	\$25 – Doug & Shelly Hartings

Follow the Marion Township Park on Facebook and Twitter!

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold

Thank you to all who have supported and continued to support the MCDO with memberships in 2017! Membership for the year is \$15.00 for a family and \$60.00 for a business. The membership form is included in this packet. Bob Dippold has been sending letter requests for memberships and working diligently to contact Marion Community members. Please contact Bob Dippold (419) 305-0128 or Shannon Everman (419) 925-5707 or email to admin@marioncommunities.com if you have any questions about the status of your membership.

HEALTH, SAFETY & EDUCATION

Committee Chairperson – Elaine Wolters

The American Red Cross will be having a blood drive at the Knights of St John on May 1 from 12:00PM – 6:00PM. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

There are a lot of ways that individuals can reduce stress. Feel free to try some of these listed below.

- Studies show that spending money on experiences over material items will bring greater joy.
- Keeping a journal can help to clear your mind and improve your mental well-being.
- Consider limiting the time spent with others who are chronically unhappy.
- Focus on your strengths and recite them internally.
- Go for a walk...outside.
- Unplug from the media for a day. All the negativity can really impact your day.
- Listen to relaxing music. It can reduce stress by nearly 65%.

While being optimistic is great. It is suggested that you seek guidance from your family physician during an annual wellness exam to help ensure your health is on the right track this year.

HOUSING

Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast

The Woodview Estates subdivision is progressing. Rapid Development is working hard on getting streets and street lighting in with an anticipated completion date of early summer. After that project is completed, then new housing construction can begin. For more information, please contact Jay Ruhenkamp at 937-295-4244.

Heitkamp Developers recently acquired four additional lots in Marion Acres. These lots are available for sale. Please contact Dan Heitkamp at 419-925-4307 for more information.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty

In 2011, the MCDO received \$5,000 from the American Dairy Association Mideast for a promotional campaign that would assist in the Grand Lake Watershed project. This seed money went into a neutral account called Ag Sol Promo. Since the Ag Solutions group now has transitioned out of the MCDO to the Mercer County Economic Development Department, the remaining funds will be sent to Theresa Dirksen, Ag Solutions Coordinator, for use in promotional items.

To raise funds, the boosters have contracted to run the dairy stand at the Mercer County Fair. This is a challenging task, requiring volunteers to manage and staff the stand for 7 days. The FFA banquet (3/21) was a great success noting the significant accomplishments of our Ag students. Dan Schroer, New Bremen grad and superintendent of Springboro schools was the guest speaker. The pie auction, which is an annual highlight conducted by auctioneer Brenda Schwieterman, netted \$2,975.00. Thanks to Brenda, the pie bakers and especially the pie purchasers for making this a fun, most profitable part of the event. The next Ag Ed Boosters meeting will be held on Monday, April 17th, 2017 at 8:00pm in the Marion Local Ag Ed classroom. All are invited to attend!

OLD BUSINESS:

The Annual MCDO Awards Banquet was held on Sunday, April 2nd, 2017 at 11:30am at the Maria Stein American Legion. The Guest Speaker was Warren Davidson, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Ohio's 8th District. The Distinguished Developer Awards were presented to Ron Hartings and Paul Albers. Due to valuable feedback from the community, there will be changes in the agenda for next year. Thank you to all who attended to make this year's banquet a huge success!

It's springtime! Along with spring, comes maintenance and cleaning. The sidewalks in Maria Stein have been very beneficial to the community for several years. Many of these sidewalks have been maintained and we appreciate your diligence! Some areas along the way could use edging for ease of use and for safety reasons. Please consider keeping the sidewalks clear and if you need assistance for the maintenance, please contact admin@marioncommunities.com or 419-305-0128. Thank you!

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mercer County Council on Aging has recently announced that they will be bringing meals to the Maria Stein Shrine on the 2nd Floor, Gast Gallery on the 1st and 2nd Wednesdays of each month. This service begins May 3rd, 2017 and the cost is \$3 per meal. Transportation is available to the Shrine. Anyone 60 years and older must call 419-586-1644 at least 24 hours in advance to participate. Volunteers are needed to assist the service as well. What a great addition to our community!

The MCDO welcomes Speelman Creative to the list of expanding businesses in the Marion Community. Speelman Creative is a design service owned by Katie Speelman. Katie and her husband, Tyler and their daughter live in Maria Stein. For more information, visit www.speelmancreative.com.

VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS

Chickasaw – No new report.

Chickasaw Park Board Report – For information on renting the park shelters, call Kelli Thobe at 419- 925-5810.

Osgood – No new report.

Osgood Park Board Report – For information on renting the park shelters, call Alan Wendel at 419-582-4502.

Marion Township – No new report.

Marion Township Park Board – For information or concerns about the park, call Keith Pohlmann at 419-925-6805.

Marion Local Schools – The Marion Local Schools recently approved a bid from Cotterman & Co. for repairs on the roof at the elementary school.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., with a motion from Bob Dippold and seconded by Bob Unrast. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is set for Tuesday, May 9th, 2017 at 7:00p.m in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Jim Keller, President

Board of Directors

Jim Keller, President	419-925-4764
Shannon Everman, Secretary	419-925-5707
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Elaine Pierron	419-925-5704
Coordinator: Jim Keller	419-925-4764

Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Tony Kaiser 419-582-2681
Health, Safety & Education:	Elaine Wolters 419-925-4620
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-925-4151
Infrastructure:	Open
Land Use:	Open
Membership:	Bob Dippold 419-305-0128
Recreation:	Cory Albers 419-733-3057



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