



President, Jim Keller called the December meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on December 8, 2015, 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. Jim Keller seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS \$127,254.99

Asset Allocations

Checking	\$95,548.89
CD's	\$15,465.29
Pass Book	<u>\$16,240.81</u>
Total Assets	\$127,254.99

Funding Allocations

Recreation Fund	\$16,457.04
General Fund - MCDO	\$27,662.31
Marion Soccer	\$7,020.83
Girls' Softball	\$8,686.18
ML FFA	\$15,858.76
Boys Baseball	\$8,340.28
AS Promo	\$3,817.87
AG Solutions	\$1,716.30
Ag Ed Boosters	\$23,268.59
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$5,000.00
ML Bowling	\$300.30
Marion Industrial Park Association	<u>\$9,126.53</u>
Total Assets	\$127,254.99

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Cory Albers

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

November 15: John & Deb Hoyt	November 29: Dan Bills
November 22: Walter Braun	December 6: Craig & Amy Knapke

MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

Committee Chairperson – Ron Hartings

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

\$50 – Bill Garman	\$30 – Steve Cook
\$25 – Doug & Nancy Billerman	\$25 – Art & Joyce Moeller

Thanks to all the members continuing their support of the Marion Township Park!

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold

Thank you to all those who have joined the MCDO for 2015! We greatly appreciate your support! 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.

Just a reminder that all dues for 2016 will be due in January 2016!

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty

On Tuesday, December 1st, several area leaders of groups trying to restore Grand Lake met to align efforts to improve results. These groups included: Mercer County Engineer's Office, Soil & Water Conservation, Economic Development Department, Mercer County Ohio State University Extension, Ohio Departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture, Grand Lake Watershed Alliance, Ohio Farm Bureau, Blanchard River Research Projects, Wright State University Lake Campus, and Ag Solutions (MCDO). Jim Keller, Ag Solutions, announced his retirement from the group and encouraged more personal interaction with area farmers to improve the situation. Jim is encouraged that the new program at Wright State University Lake Campus in conjunction with these groups will be able to continue the mission of Ag Solutions.

The AG Ed Boosters continue to work on several projects. In addition to their involvement with the pork stand at the fair, this year they assisted with the dairy stand. They have selected a committee to manage the dairy stand at next year's fair. The scholarship committee continues to refine its approach with a goal of getting more students to apply. The Ag Ed Booster's next meeting will be held Monday, December 21st, 2015 at 8pm in the Marion Local Ag Ed classroom. All are invited to come and join the boosters.

The Ag Ed Boosters are sponsoring an event on Wednesday January 20, 2016 at 8pm at the Maria Stein Legion Hall. Guest speaker David Marrison will discuss "Transitioning the Family Farm" a topic which is of significant interest to many local land owners. The topic and seminar is equally applicable to small business owners who are looking for approaches to transition their business to a family member. The event is free and all are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS:

As noted in the prior month's minutes, the Chapel Hill Preschool held an Advisory Board meeting on Monday, November 23rd, 2016. Representatives from the Preschool, MCDO, Parents, and the Marion Local Schools were present. The discussion focused on the financial status of the preschool. There were several action items compiled as a result of the meeting. One of the items was that the Preschool and MCDO will work together to conduct a survey with the parent population to receive feedback on the program. The goal is to ensure that the Preschool is able to generally meet the needs for as many of the Marion Local families as possible and within the constraints of the rules and requirements. The plan is to distribute the survey in January 2016 prior to the re-enrollment period.

NEW BUSINESS:

The MCDO received an insurance addendum for the coverage of certified acts of terrorism. The decision was made to reject the coverage for the MCDO.

Planning for the MCDO's Annual Awards Banquet has begun for April 2016. More information to follow!

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 – No new report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., with a motion from Jim Keller and seconded by Bob Unrast. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is Tuesday, January 12, 2016 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:



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