Harper Community Chamber of Commerce

Presidents Report – 2022 – 2023

1. Board Members - 6 of the 9 director positions are filled. The nominating committee is interviewing candidates for the open positions.
2. Membership – increased from 98 to 121.
3. Membership Participation – attendance at meetings has increased but (very few) **working to attract more** business member**s** **to** attend and participate.
4. Financial information as of December 31, 2022:

 2021 2022

 Assets $ 32,052.00 $ 31,312.00

 Liabilities $ 4,324.00 $ -388.00

 Equity $ 27,72800 $ 26,331.00

1. Scholarship – fund balance December 31, 2022

 2021 2022

 $ 12,239.00 $ 9,835.00

 2023 award amount - $1,000.00

1. Social Media – continual enhancements to the website making it easier for visitors to navigate and access our members’ websites. Using Facebook to promote our meetings, our activities, our community and our business members Facebook posts.
2. Newsletter – produced on a quarterly basis, available on the website and distributed to area businesses. In addition to highlighting new and existing members, it includes community activities. More members are purchasing adds featuring their businesses.

8. Business Brochure – a listing of our business members, prepared once a year, distributed in area communities. The 2023 brochure will be our largest produced to date.

9. We upgraded Christmas lights and purchased larger wreaths

10. Membership Communication – two surveys were sent to the membership. The first asked “what do you expect from the Chamber”, the second “what do they consider the most important issues facing our community”. Each had a very poor response. Those responding to the first indicated networking/mixer, marketing the community and keeping the community informed of issues were their expectations. Those responding to the second survey mentioned EMS, fire protection wastewater treatment system.

11. In response to the first survey, we prepared and distributed 1,000 rack cards to area communities advertising our community.

12. We are completing a thorough review of the bylaws and are preparing a strategic plan for the Chamber and for our community.

13. We, along with representatives from The Harper Library & Resale Shop, Harper ISD and interested citizens are participating in the Gillespie County Eclipse Task Force meetings so we can educate our community on what to expect in April 2024 and to try and ensure Gillespie County provides our community necessary services (emergency services, trash, port-a-potties) during the event.

14. We introduced meeting sponsors in addition to having speakers.

15. We continue to participate with the welcome bag programs, providing marketing information from our members and are providing membership decals our members to place in prominent places of their business announcing they are members of the Harper Chamber of Commerce.