

## PaCC Economic Development Meeting

January 10, 2023

**PaCC Mission Statement:** *“The Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce works to strengthen and enhance the business environment, represent the interests of our members, and foster balanced growth in the area. Our vision is to be the preeminent advocate for business and catalyst for economic growth in the region”*

**Present** – John Erickson (PaCC/PNB), Tim Hickin (City of Pataskala), Adam Shillig (YMCA), Bart Weiler (YMCA/Weiler Financials), Debie Kohman (YMCA/CPA), Brian Elder (PaCC/PNB), Amy Hoovler (YMCA/Hoovler Financials), Elise Geig (YMCA), Jeff Rothweiler (PaCC/Pataskala Public Library), Dr. Kasey Perkins (SWLSD), Rozland McKee (Etna Twp), Alexis Fitzsimmons (GROW Licking Co.), Hayleigh Feightner (GROW Licking Co.), Dana Moore (YMCA), Chris Suel (Meta), Latisha Woods (Amgen)

Participants shared updates and observations.

Tim Hickin, City of Pataskala – Pataskala currently has seven developments in process, ranging from initial planning/permit stage through final development. Residential locations include 310/Refugee, behind Kroger (accesses from Beechwood Trails and Broad St.), and off 310 after Headleys Mill Rd on the right). Red Rock has a building on Mink Street with two more planned on Etna Parkway. The city is upgrading their sewage treatment plant. They are also working on infiltration and lining of the sewer system.

Adam Shillig, YMCA- The Realistic and Optimization Study has concluded. The study looked at all their properties in Licking County, member engagement and access to the facilities. The Youth Needs Assessment has also been completed and submitted to The United Way. The biggest need and highest priority echoed by all participants, including schools, ODJFS committees, day cares, and preschools, was for parenting skills and more resources to teach parents how to be good parents. It was noted that parents

Bart Weiler, YMCA/Weiler Financial Group – There are financial tools available to landowners that may help them avoid or put off paying a capital gains tax when they sell. Conditions of sale apply but it’s worth looking into.

Jeff Rothweiler, Pataskala Public Library – The library is adding new databases and a Library Speaker Consortium (live-streaming speaking and author-talks with access to previously recorded presentations) available to patrons. Building construction and renovation is scheduled to begin in April or May with the old building completely vacated by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr Perkins, SWLSD – They plan to break ground in spring for the new elementary school. The district is still in negotiations with Reynoldsburg over the Eastwood Development (on route 40 across from the Ohio Dept. Of Agriculture). Those Reynoldsburg residents will be in the Southwest Licking School District but may or may not be better served if they can attend schools closer to their

homes. The Athletic Facility is scheduled to be move-in ready this spring. A new concession stand and fencing around the stadium should be in place this summer.

Rozland McKee, Etna Township – Etna Township’s Pike Street was one of the projects MORPCE selected. The Southwest Licking Water & Sewer Department will be holding a question/answer session for the water board on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm

Christ Suel, Meta – Meta's last expansion is almost finished. They are looking to see how Meta can support our area schools, business, and community. Meta offers awards an annual Community Action Grant. Both the Alexandria Library and The Works Museum were past winners. Entities in both Franklin and Licking Counties are eligible to apply. Meta currently has one facility in Ohio.

Alexis Fitzsimmons, GROW Licking County – 2022 shows seven successes outside of Intel, for approximately \$587mil. Approximately 485 jobs have been added and 159 retained over four communities. The biggest project was Three Point Eco Systems, a high-tech recycling facility that reduces plastics to their original hydrocarbon state for re-use. This was a \$200mil investment in Hebron. There are a couple of good project announcements coming up for 2023. We should look for a press release to come out in late February to announce a great project.

Hayleigh Feightner, GROW Licking County – Transportation, logistics, and manufacturing are GROW’s focus drivers. Reach out to share and identify growth opportunities you may have or potentially have. Project leads were up 40% from 2020 with most leads coming from One Columbus. These include the new facility by Meta and other fully automated manufacturing, packaging, and re-packaging facilities and fully robotic warehouses.

Latisha Woods, Amgen – Amgen is a bio-pharmaceutical company. They make and distribute specialized equipment drugs for cancer and lung diseases. They are working with CSCC and The OSU for internships, apprenticeships, and other mentoring/training partnerships

Brian Elder, PaCC/PNB - If there is a community need the Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce may be able to help with or support please let us know.

#### Action Steps

- Invite representatives from COTC, ODOT, and Johnstown
- Let John Erickson know if there are others to be included on the invitation list

Next meeting will be in the first week or two in March 2023

*Respectfully submitted by Shelly Marie Ipacs*