The Greater Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes- August 5, 2026

Pledge of Allegiance
Meeting called to order at 5:30pm
Roll Call: Patty, Jane, Kaitlan, Stephanie, Pat, Guest-Luke
Jane made a motion to approve minutes of Jan, 2026 meeting, Patty seconded, all approve.
Pat made a motion to approve the treasurers report as presented, Stephanie seconded, all approve.

Old Business

a. Current member count: 60- Unex Inc now a member. Donating 20,000 daffodil bulbs to City in October. Main company is celebrating 50th anniversary. Contact Mike Allen
b. Hartford Speedway celebrating 75th anniversary (not a member) Jane to contact regarding membership or anniversary recognition.

New Business

a. 2027 Annual Banquet- Suggested date Feb. 15, 2027 at Moondance. Patty to contact Moondance regarding availability and cost. Suggested speaker – Chris Moraitis (?)
b. Christmas in Hartford, Saturday, December 12th- Chamber to donate 4 $50 cash drawing, winner must be present.
c. After Hours Event- Hartford Chiropractic Clinic- Aug. 17 at 6:30pm, the additional speaker is Laura Henderson-Whiteford, Lake Michigan College.
d. Strawberry Festival-Motion was made by Stephanie to approve the 2027 date, June 11 & 12, seconded by Pat, all approve.
   Motion was made by Jan to approve the Strawberry Festival at multiple locations in Hartford, seconded by Pat, all approve.
   Additional suggestions for 2027 Strawberry Festival- booth for information on growing strawberries and the history of the Hartford Strawberry Festival. Scavenger hunt with plastic strawberries throughout the town.
   More volunteers are needed for 2027 Strawberry Festival.
e. Hartford Fall Festival update- Volunteers are needed for the Fall festival, lots of games and family activities, Country Line dancing, Unity Church service, DJ Munoz, bounce house, touch-a-truck, etc.
f. Michigan Fun Convention: Nov. 5-8, 2026, Battle Creek, Doubletree Hotel- cost $209 for one day exhibits pass. Patty suggested attending. Motion was for Patty and Stephanie to attend one day convention at $209 each by Jane and seconded by Pat, all approve.
g. Southwest Michigan Rural Festival Roundtable Proposed date October 15, 2027 at 7pm- Inviting our area festival organizers to a networking event to exchange ideas on how to improve our local festivals. Motion was made to support this event by Jane and seconded by Pat, all approve. Refreshments will be included.
h. Market One has announced a Community Development Block Grant to qualified home owners for $20,000 for home improvements. Restrictions and qualifications apply.

Motion to adjourn was made by Stephanie, seconded by Patty, all approve.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm, next meeting Sept. 2nd at 5:30pm (Hartford Public Library)