



December 30, 2020

HILLSDALE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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HILLSDALE COUNTY  
ATTN.: HCCC MEMBERS

RE: HCCC Annual Member Meeting

Good morning and welcome to the Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting.

I am Scott Donihue, (Interim Chairman) and I have been asked to give a brief analysis of 2020 and a peak into the future plans of your Chamber.

What more can be said about 2020 that hasn't already been said. This past year has been exceptional in nearly any way you would choose to look at it.

Many of our long-standing events were postponed, then postponed again, and then cancelled altogether. Our local economy has been impacted by the imposed restrictions and some of them may never recover.

Today Hillsdale County is once again a hotspot for the Coronavirus with 14 new cases on Monday alone! And last week we averaged 14 new cases per day! Although thankfully our fatality rate has been relatively low. Our state has lost over 12,000 people thus far to virus related illnesses. Needless to say, this virus has had a profound impact on our local businesses.

This past year also had many changes at your Chamber. With the closing of Nash Pharmacy and the relocation of Current Office Solutions the Chamber also lost its office and meeting space. The Chamber received resignations from its Chairman, Treasurer, and the help of the staff at COS and their capacity to help with our day-to-day operations. Even with all of that your Chamber held events, promoted on-line classes, held a business after hours, and had a grand opening! We took part in the support and promotion of events throughout the county including the Light Up Parade, Trunk or Treat, the July 4th Celebration and many more. We offer our members many ways to promote their business. Our email blasts get the highest open ratings, and our Facebook page reaches over 23,000 people! Where else can you get that bang for your buck?





In 2021 we are planning a re-awakening for the Chamber. We are currently looking for a new street level location in the main retail area of downtown Hillsdale. We hope to create an improved relationship with the many different organizations in the county and become the one go-to source for communications, collaborations and cultural events in our area. We hope to become the source for folks near and far who reach out to find out about the happenings in Hillsdale County. Your Chamber looks forward to being the catalyst for all things Hillsdale County bringing together people to promote the local businesses and services that our communities have to offer.

Our current board of directors Sandi Miller, Deb Fasick, Mike Prince, Amanda Honeywell, Cyndi Young, Jim Tailpalus, Ciarra Rump and myself invite you to get involved in your Chamber. Meetings are just once a month and typically last just an hour or so. Your involvement would be a great help and a terrific return on your Chamber investment. If you aren't a current member, we invite you to join!

In closing: We are looking forward to the new year and the possibilities that it holds! There will be an end to this pandemic and your Chamber will be ready, willing and able to support the rejuvenation of our local economy with promotions, information, and services designed to promote Hillsdale County businesses and events.

Looking forward to a better year in 2021—Come join us! Grow, lead, network!

Scott Donihue

Interim Chairman  
The Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce

