

Grow Bloomfield Meeting May 20th, 2026

Attending

- Tom Schwarzweller
- Tracey Dello Stritto
- Sarah Williams
- Jim Shannon
- Sheree Hooper
- Gary Hooper
- Paul Zelter
- Paul Hudson
- Brandon Steele
- Brenda Cooper
- Doug Turnbull
- Marce Chavez
- Sheila Sulli
- Dave Cooley
- Brenda Cooley
- Garry Manuel

March 18th, 2026	May 20th, 2026 (April was Business community event)
<p>Paul-Computer is down. Someone was trying to scam him.</p> <p>The Office of the Aging in Ionia is having a scam seminar tonight.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Tracey Dello Stretto-Ontario County Chamber of Commerce President.</p> <p>Worked in the Finger Lakes Wine industry - Customer service to engaging national publications for the Finger Lakes Wine Industry</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Transitioned 2 years ago to the Ontario County Chamber of Commerce. 116 years old. (Was the Canandaigua Chamber for 112 years).</p>	<p>Brandon was elected to the BCS school Board with a vote of 237.</p> <p>-</p> <p>Paul H-Local Taxes and Analysis-</p> <p>10 year tax impact.</p> <p>Paul Hudson Personal Finances used as emphasis tax increase over last 10 years.</p> <p>(Town Taxes) *Up 38%</p> <p>(County Taxes) *Up 92%</p> <p>*(Fire Dept Taxes) Up 95%</p> <p>CPI-33.5% over last 10 years.</p> <p>County Budget-up 73% (7.3% annual)</p>

<p>Wants to recognize the work that is being done in local communities to help support business and development.</p> <p>Board of Directors - Created a new Strategic Plan last year. A part of 9 county regional council-Meets 4x/year. Tracy is a voting member. Job is to bring representation to that council.</p> <p>Phelps and Canadaigua awarded 4/10 million dollar awards last year. People are paying attention.</p> <p>Work very closely with Ryan Davis from the county. —</p> <p>We have over 500 business in our chamber. 75% of our business are small (25 employees or less)/ That is what we do.</p> <p>-Provide education opportunities to these businesses to support their marketing and HR needs.</p> <p>-We do Ribbon cuttings.</p> <p>EESS-Employer/Employee Support Services- Offer 28/per employee/year/1 visit/month. Mental health support.</p> <p>-If you have a healthy Employee they are more likely to stick with your business.</p> <p>New Business “In A Pickle” - Indoor pickle ball.</p> <p>Hold 1x/month business/business networking. Next event is at the pickle! —</p> <p>Hold annual Golf Tournament</p> <p>Women’s Leadership Athena Events. -Every November start to take nominations.</p> <p>-</p> <p>The County has been a huge supporter of our leadership and workforce development program.</p>	<p>-County budget meeting’s are often very poorly attended where discussion on county relevant taxes occur.</p> <p>—————</p> <p>Marce/Social Media Presence</p> <p>Social Media (Garry is going to continue doing the videos for social media).</p> <p>-Marce to continue posting events for the meeting.-Facebook posts can be liked and marked with an interest to attend. Please mark interested/attending and leave a comment to improve visibility using Facebook’s algorithm.</p> <p>—————</p> <p>Thoughts on the community outreach event.</p> <p>-Marce feels that Cheap Charlie’s event went well. Marcee is taking clips of Paul speaking at the event and sharing these via social media.</p> <p>Rotary</p> <p>Do they welcome new businesses in town. Rotary has a “Business of the Month”.</p> <p>-We should also welcome new businesses in grow Bloomfield in Grow Bloomfield.</p> <p>Rotary had a great social gathering with the recent Bingo Event.</p> <p>-Instagram page for Grow Bloomfield is older. Kim Duvall was running it, but is no longer active with the page.</p> <p>-Sarah Williams- Agrees to create Grow Bloomfield YouTube page and help with Instagram transition.</p> <p>We should have at least 2 people who can access social media/website events/youtube in order to ensure nothing gets missed if someone gets busy.</p>
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<p>10 month program 1x/month. You connect with this cohort to work on personal/professional development, leadership styles, etc.</p> <p>Recent events for those in the program</p> <p>Round Table Discussion on Healthcare and health service in Ontario County. Next meeting is on higher Education</p> <p>-</p> <p>Will start applications for the 5th Cohort of this program in August/September .</p> <p>Questions (Q)</p> <p>Thoughts on Micron plant.</p> <p>Infrastructure and energy challenges...Housing concerns.</p> <p>"I can't say if that Boom is going to push into here Ontario county".</p> <p>-</p> <p>It all connects. When a new business comes to town we need to figure out how to house the workers.</p> <p>We have 3 exits off the throughway.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Fred Willy State and Federal Officials are very interested in the Micron Plant. The significance of this for surrounding counties could be very high.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Q What is the workforce development in relation to AI and worker skill development.</p> <p>Ontario County is one of the few growing counties in the state.</p> <p>Cold Stone Country Club Meeting-County officials will come to talk about what is happening and current events.</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>—</p> <p>Zoom Event planned for People to attend remotely.-(record events and post to YouTube). Joel messaged Brandon hoping to attend via Zoom today.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Tracey Dello Stritto</p> <p>Summer edition Ontario County Magazine-Stories of small businesses within the county.</p> <p>Ontario- Upcoming events-Program leadership Ontario. 10 month program/1xmonth. Upcoming leaders/supervisors/business owners. (Runs from September to June). Great program. Has applications that are open until June 1st.</p> <p>-Have a professional development coach. Each meeting focuses on primary industry/services within the county. Eg-CEOs of the healthcare groups in Ontario county come to speak with the group. LeadershipOntario.org</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Chamber collaborating with FLCC regarding AI (Artificial Intelligence). 8:30-3:30- You can come and go as needed. Professionals will be talking about all different aspects of AI. (Marketing, environment, workforce, and economic development etc)-45\$/Person-Includes lunch.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>We were just in Albany talking with Senator Helming and others-Community engagement is a really big piece that grant writers look for. "If I want to put public dollars into a community I want to feel like the community is committed".</p> <p>_____</p>
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Talking about new development-The Next step is advocating for it.

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Fred-Larger Villages and cities are favored over smaller Town/Villages and Hamlets like Bloomfield when it comes to funding and grants

We don't have the underwriting.

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"The Rules of the game have to change"...there's plenty of infrastructure money, but often this is inaccessible for communities the size of Bloomfield.

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Fred

"The Gravel Pit has some very exciting announcements" Possibly relating to selling gravel.

How do we handle the Nimby's vs Yimby's when we are building homes, energy infrastructure, businesses.

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Part of our problem is that we didn't have any land owners that were interested in

selling. That had changed now. The Town is going to have an agriculture expert come in and map out the prime land and land that is of lower quality for farming.

Solar

There was a 5 year moratorium on solar. That has been lifted.

The percentage of produced energy that is legally obligated to stay local is a decent amount. (Fred cannot recall exact number).

Fred about solar farms and tax breaks. "We didn't give them a nickle The solar farms are not

Trails meeting-Fred convened.

Paul Chatfield-Returned Engineer and Joe from MRB Engineering present.

Laid out plan for creating a trail from Boughton Park to Veteran's park-4 miles

"How are you going to pay for this".

"There are gobs of money for this".

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-Land Owners-"We lived in town and we moved out to the country because we like our privacy". NIMBY mindset present. Some owners on the route are strongly in favor of the trail

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In order to apply for grants we have to prove that we already have easements for property.

Victor trails development has a hope to connect trails from Irondequoit to Southern Tier.

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Town needs to explore tax assessment protection. People don't want their property values to go up from the trail's presence.

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Most of Grow Bloomfield is in favor of a trail development. (Unanimous support for those in attendance).

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Sheila Sulli (Town Board)-

Sheila has concerns with poor drainage and accessibility for athletic events at Veteran's park. Also would like to get a Pickle Ball court placed. Funding is limited.

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Brandon

Posted fun run suggestion on Community Facebook. Strong community support noted.

getting any tax breaks.

Pilots were only for jobs. If there is no jobs then there are no tax breaks

Solar— previously the land only could be assessed and not what is on the land. That just changed recently. The parcels are rezoned from Ag to commercial, which is more favorable for taxes.

Maximum output is 10 MW of solar-This wouldn't hold up in court because the output changes at any given time. Colin.

444 Solar is not done-There is a supply issue for panels.

Fixed angle racking is more visibly obtrusive. This will stand out more to those passing by. Single post adjustable racking uses far less metal and is visually less unpleasant.

Fred-
A few years ago Bloomfield lost the afterschool program.

Tracey Dello Stritto Helped walk the village to look for the Epic zone possible buildings as an after school program for our students.

The Epic Zone is State funded.
It is currently being run by a Rotary Foreign Exchange Student too.

Additional growth.

“Don't underestimate the power of Bass Pro”.

What doesn't hurt is having a business that has pull to bring in additional business and infrastructure.

As that growth occurs what do we want to have coming into the area.

Sun King (Moving into Crosman)- Has a need for 100-150 jobs-Working with Ontario County

Possible mile run from post office to Elton park and 5k run from elementary/post office/Elton park/Cemetary/Highschool/Elementary

Fun Run (Grow Bloomfield Feels positive about supporting a run)
-Rotary had considered starting a fun run in years past. Possible collaboration with Grow Bloomfield and Rotary for run down Mainstreet.

Insurance for under 100 runners would be ~ \$200 (Joel)

Ideas for run theme-Support local/county charity or support businesses.
EG-Bloomfield run for Beer and beverages (Support local breweries and maybe have milk from a local dairy for the kiddos).

Community Publicity Video

Created by Garry M.

Personal Statements from community members about why they like Bloomfield.

Looks good. Lasts about 10 min long. Idea from Doug to shorten. Could cut clips for different members that speak and post on Instagram/FB.

Next Item

Marce

All your Business Event-

Josette is on Vacation-
April 15th (Or 6-8). Cheap Charlie's-Really
wanted Cheap's to show what they have.
What ever the money buys go for it.

We could invite Ryan Davis.

If someone has started a business we want them
to come to this meeting.

Josette plans to visit the specific businesses
and give them an individual announcement.

Colin-Today we were awarded 15 sites to graze
sheep. 500% increase in business from last year.
Agrivoltaics. Every site that exists. Talks to
Bennett "How's it going do you like your checks"
The farmers that are losing and selling land is it
because they are going bankrupt or is it because
it is the right thing to
do.

If we're are not going to impact Ag Fields then
what are we going to impact, first, marsh, etc.

The power keeps going out but my gas stays on
in every storm. I want something reliable.

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Bio-energy using farmer based organic waste to
create a source of income for them and a source
of power for us.

-What is the economic impact of having our
garbage going 3x further. "We'll send compost
kits home with people"... Not effective.

Municipal, county, and beyond dumps.

To me that doesn't embrace long term effective sustainable policy. We can't keep throwing our garbage, electric needs, etc down the road for some other community handle it. Nimbys vs yimbys. .

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