



January 19, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 111 • Mantua, OH 44255

2010 - 2011 Officers

Christine Pitsinger, President
Missy Lyle, Vice President
Joan Sweet, Treasurer
Becky Tipton, Secretary

In Attendance:

Frank R. Ruehr – Shalersville Township
Bob MacLearie – Mantua Masons/American Legion/SBD
Brad Raum – Robinson Memorial Hospital
Rebecca Tipton – Ameriprise Financial
Brent Simon – GoRilla Productions
Dayton Hickerson – Grand Promotional Products
Dorothy Caldwell – Shalersville Township
Nancy Vines – Shalersville Township
Dennis J. Bujak – Shalersville Township
Cindy Janson – Mantua Hardware
Paulette Nichols

Marie Stehli, CPA – Mantua Township
Rick Frato – Edward Jones
Tom Kennedy – Marshall's Carpet Cleaning
Edie Benner – Advanced Rehab/DMRC
Missy Lyle – Village Tavern
Sandy Pelphrey - Villager
Joan Sweet – Middlefield Bank
Joe Iacano – Crestwood Schools
Jim Oster
Christine Pitsinger – Community Journal

Meeting was called to order at 7:38 a.m. Introductions were made.

Mantua Township: Marie Stehli announced the elected new officers.

Mantua Village: No report.

Shalersville Township: The township has now used around half of their original 750-ton salt supply. They recently ordered a mini-excavator to be used for ditches and in the cemetery. The books have been closed for 2010.

Crestwood Schools: The community winter walking program is being planned, watch the school newsletter and Community Journal for details. It is likely that there will be state budget cuts of around 10-20% coming. 55% of the school's budget comes from the state.

County Update: Janet Esposito, Portage County Auditor, reported that there was a carry-over of \$3,000,000 from last year in her office. This is only \$185,000 more than last year. Foreclosures in the county are up. Janet asked anyone who has questions to talk with her at any time.

Announcements:

DMRC: Rick Frato said there will be a meeting on January 26, at 7:30 a.m.

Advanced Rehab: Edie Benner announced that they are busy with community activities, including holding several exercise classes each day, and providing physicals. There will be a "Chili Bowl Run" on March 4.

Robinson Hospitals Garretttsville Health Center: Brad Raum announced it will tentatively open in summer of 2011.

Elections: On behalf of the chamber, the officers presented outgoing president Marie Stehli with a gift certificate and plaque in appreciation for her many years of service. 2011-2012 Chamber officers were sworn in by Janet Esposito. Officers are: President – Christine Pitsinger; Vice President – Melissa Lyle; Treasurer – Joan Sweet; and Secretary – Becky Tipton.

New Business:

Scholarship: Dorothy Caldwell said she would like to find someone new to head the scholarship committee.

"Business After Hours": The chamber is considering sponsoring a "Business After Hours" event, to provide members with an opportunity to network with other business owners. The first event will tentatively be held at Jake's, and the frequency of the events will be decided based upon interest and attendance. Anyone who has suggestions is welcome to submit them.

"Speed Networking": It was recommended that the chamber sponsor some type of "speed networking" event. Suggestions are welcome.

Monthly Door Prize: Monthly door prizes will be given away at the 2011 chamber business meetings. The intent is to give a service or product worth approximately \$25.00. Anyone who would like to donate a prize should speak with one of the chamber officers. Congratulations to Dorothy Caldwell for winning the January prize, a \$25 gift certificate to K&K Meat Shoppe.

Old Business:

Giving Trees: Marie Stehli reported that the 2010 program was successful. 86 K-Mart gift cards (\$20 each) were given to local teens, and gifts were provided for younger children. There is a surplus of \$272.00 that will be set aside for the 2011 program. The officers and members thanked Marie for heading up this event each year.

Santa Arrives at the Mini-Park: Paulette Nichols reported that the program was successful, with 55 children attending. The officers and members thanked Paulette for heading up this event each year.

Approval of Minutes: Bob MacLearie motioned to approve, Dorothy Caldwell seconded.

Treasurer's Report: As of 12/31/2010, there was \$10,896.13 in the checking account, \$5,235.96 in the scholarship fund, and \$272.00 in the Giving Trees account.

Membership: There are currently 74 members. Beginning in 2011, dues will be pro-rated. Specifically, for any member who joins the chamber after July 1, their annual dues for 2011 will be one half of the annual amount.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 a.m.