



March 16, 2011 Meeting Minutes

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

2011 - 2012 Officers
Christine Pitsinger, President
Missy Lyle, Vice President
Joan Sweet, Treasurer
Becky Tipton, Secretary

In attendance:

Terri Wilde - Crestwood 4C's
Beth Trivelli - Crestwood Primary
Susan McGann - KRBA /SBDC
Ron Lance - Diversified Enterprises
Rick Frato - Edward Jones
Virginia Goodell - Goodell Farms
Lyle Tayerle - Aflac
Michelle Barnauskas - DMRC
Cindy Janson - Mantua Hardware
Jim Prout - Prout & Associates
Bo Johnson - Letter X Design
Jim Oster - Oster Rentals, DMRC
Melissa Lyle - Village Tavern
Becky Tipton - Ameriprise

Linda Clark - Village Council
Dayton Hickerson - Grand Promotional Products
Betty Sweda - KRBA/SBDC
Brad Raum - Robinson Memorial Hospital
Maria Schmidt - UH Geauga Medical Center
Dorothy Caldwell - Shalersville Township
David Brokaw - Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Bd.
Jodie Fiala - Jake's
Helen Hazlett - Howard Hanna Realty, Rotary
Carl Zeleznik - Sierra Inc.
Shirley Schuster - Mantua Township Resident
Brent Simon - GoRilla Productions
Christine Pitsinger - Community Journal

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 a.m. Introductions were made.

VILLAGE & TOWNSHIP UPDATES

Mantua Township: No report

Mantua Village: Council has passed a resolution to allow truck traffic on certain residential streets. They are putting in place a new billing plan which will hopefully help with for water and sewer bill delinquencies.

Shalersville Township: The spring clean-up will be held during the first weekend in May. The county engineer has closed Cooley Road, due to a culvert that has been in disrepair and has been further damaged by recent snow and rain. The road is expected to be closed for a minimum of 90 days. The township has begun taking bids for equipping their new truck.

Crestwood Schools: Beth Trivelli, the principal at Crestwood Primary School, invites everyone to visit the school. They are always looking for volunteer readers. The school currently has 440 students enrolled, and they put large focus on literacy and science. Earth Day will be held at the school on April 29, from 4:00-6:00 p.m, the community is invited to attend.

MARCH FEATURED BUSINESS

Letter X Design: Bo Johnson, owner of Letter X Design talked about how his business provides printing, website design, business cards and stationery; brochures, ads, mailers, signs, and other promotional services for small and large businesses and organizations. He also offers computer networking services. Bo showed the group several websites and other materials he has designed.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarship Committee: 7 applications have been received. April 15 is the deadline to apply.

Scholarship Golf Outing: The event will be held June 8, at Sugar Bush Golf Club. There will be a catered boxed lunch and buffet dinner. The committee is looking for businesses to sponsor holes for \$100 each, contact Graham Harmon or Joann Vance if you are interested.

Business After Hours Event: This will be held on April 18 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Jake's. There is no charge to attend. There will be free appetizers and a cash bar.

Community Garage Sales: Sales will be held July 22 and 23 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the village and townships. Chamber members will not be charged to participate at their home or business, non-members will be charged \$10. Individuals and businesses that participate will receive a sign, their location will be noted on the map, and they will be included in advertising for the event. Registrations are being accepted now.

MEMBER & GUEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary Club: Helen Hazlett talked about their recent efforts to “revitalize Rotary”. Rotary Club meets at Hilltop Christian Church on Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. The organization offers networking opportunities, educational events, and social activities. They are currently helping an exchange student to raise \$1,000 for a “shelter box”, which is a kit containing a tent, cooking utensils, personal items, and other things a family needs to survive in the days and weeks following a disaster. These boxes are being sent to Haiti and other areas of the world that have experienced catastrophes.

DMRC: Michelle Barnauskas said the group has applied for a grant that will help pay for signs in the area (for example, directing visitors to trail locations, parks, etc.). They have also applied for a grant to help pay for landscaping on state routes. On May 9 at 6:30 p.m. there will be a community meeting at the fire station to let everyone who is interested know about upcoming activities and how they can get involved. Spring clean-up will be held on May 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Art on the Hill will be held on July 9, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

4C's Food Cupboard: Terri Wilde said that the 4C's will again participate in the Feinstein Challenge which provides funding to 4C's based on food contributions received during the months of March and April, so this is a good time to donate canned goods. They are open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and are always looking for volunteers. If you can donate even a few hours of your time, contact Terri. Also, remember that canned and boxed food items can be dropped off at any Chamber of Commerce meeting, or any time at Middlefield Bank.

NOACC: Jim Prout talked about a program that will pay members \$25 in member benefits for each new member they bring in. In addition, the new member will receive a handbook about low-cost advertising.

Taxes and Politics Seminar: Rick Frato of Edward Jones is hosting an educational event on March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Jake's. A guest speaker will provide an overview of the current political environment, prospective legislation, and strategies for investment and retirement planning. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Rick's office if you plan to attend.

Goodell Pancake Breakfast: Virginia Goodell said that the last pancake breakfast will be held this Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Shalersville Town Hall.

Kent Regional Business Alliance: This organization offers confidential advice on marketing, human resources, and other business concerns. Services are provided free of charge and are available to businesses throughout Portage County.

Two Friends Casual Catering: Missy Lyle announced that she has started a new catering company, providing a variety of meal options for small and large groups. Contact her for more information.

OLD BUSINESS

Website: The Chamber website is currently being revamped and checked for accuracy and appearance. All members should check their listing for accuracy. New member listings are added monthly.

MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT, MEMBERSHIP

Approval of Minutes: Shirley Schuster motioned to approve, Virginia Goodell seconded.

Treasurer's Report: As of February 28, 2011, there was \$10,737.15 in the checking account and \$5,235.96 in the scholarship fund.

Membership: There are currently 84 members.

DOOR PRIZE

Congratulations! Lyle Tayerle of Aflac was the winner of the March door prize, a \$25 gift certificate donated by the Village Tavern.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m.