



# April 2009 Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order by Marie Stehli at 7:30AM.

## In Attendance:

Bob MacLearie, Mantua Masons

Christine Pitsinger, Community Journal

Scott Mikula, Home Savings Bank

Dorothy Caldwell, Shalersville Township

Paulette Nichols, Portage Community Bank

Estelle Brown, Villager

Joe Iacano, Crestwood Schools

Becky Newell, Benner Masonry and DMRC

Ellie Stamm, Stamm Contracting

Julie Robine, Advanced Rehab

Joan Sweet, Middlefield Bank

Dayton Hickerson, Grand Promotional Products

Cheri Mikula, Portage Cty. Mental Health & Recovery

Laura Landreth, DMRC

Wendy Connair, Garden Girls

Michelle Barnauskas, DMRC

Hank Cabot, Western Reserve Kiwanis

Rebecca Tipton, Ameriprise Financial

Jim Prout, Prout & Associates

Introductions were made. During introductions, Scott Mikula of the Brimfield Lions Club invited all to attend/participate/and or donate to their fundraiser May 3rd at the Brimfield High School to raise money for diabetes research, fliers were passed out.

**Shalersville Township:** The spring clean up date is May 7-9, from 7AM-7PM at the township garage. The Memorial Day celebration will take place on May 23, there will be a band playing. Event starts at 10AM at the Riverside Cemetery. They are ditching Cooley Road in preparation to pave it this year.

**Mantua Township:** They will be paving Woodhollow and Timber Point Trail this summer. Spring clean up is May 9 at the township garage.

**Featured Business:** Dayton Hickerson, owner of Grand Promotional Products explained his business and how it can help increase your sales. They have between 75,000-80,000 items which can have your business name imprinted on them. They are located in Shalersville. Items can be purchased in small quantities. He brought a variety of sample items including mugs, shirts, pens, golf balls, frisbees and realtor lockbox covers.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Joan Sweet to approve the March minutes, seconded by Bob MacLearie.

**Treasurer's Report:** As of March 31, 2009, the checking balance was \$8,403.39 and the scholarship savings account balance was \$5,389.17. A motion was made by Dorothy Caldwell to approve the report, seconded by Paulette Nichols.

**Membership:** Becky Newell reported 90 members.

**Scholarship:** The deadline for applications is today. There are 7 applications to be considered so far. Dororthy will check at the high school to make sure there aren't any at the Guidance office.

**DMRC:** Michelle Barnauskas gave a DMRC update. She stated that the village was unable to meet their obligation to contribute \$21,000 to the DMRC, they can probably give \$5,000. The chamber was asked to make a donation. She made a motion that the chamber donate \$1,000, seconded by Becky Newell. Becky then motioned that the chamber donate \$3,000. The officers will review the budget and determine how much they can give.

Laura Landreth explained that the project is not just the facade improvements, that the majority is the infrastructure improvements which will benefit the residents as well. The second marketing workshop will be held on April 20 at the Crestwood High School in the computer lab. The DMRC will hold a strategic planning meeting on May 4.

**Spring Spruce Up:** The annual clean up day will May 9th. Fliers were handed out.

**NOACC:** Jim Prout announced the NOAAC meeting which will be held on April 24 at Dave & Busters in Westlake. Becky Newell and Christine Pitsinger will also attend this meeting. He also passed out information about the Geauga County Chambers' After Hours event, which is free to attend and has booth rentals at reasonable fees for businesses.

**Scholarship Golf Outing:** The outing date will be held on Saturday, June 27 at Ravenswood Golf Course. The cost is \$65 per golfer. A dinner will be included. The committee is looking for hole sponsors and door prize donations. Fliers are being made and will be sent out soon.

**Soap Box Derby:** Bob MacLearie reported that it will be held in Mantua on June 13, starts at 9AM.

**Secretary Position:** Melanie Miracle has decided to step down as secretary due to a job opportunity, and due to scheduling prohibits her from attending the meetings. Melissa Lyle, owner of FootPrints has agreed to take this position. Bob MacLearie made a motion that Melissa act as secretary, seconded by Michelle Barnauskas.

**Guest Speaker:** Joe Iacona, Crestwood Schools Superintendent was the guest speaker. He opened by stating that Crestwood has one of the best art departments in the state. He provided the group with statistics regarding student/teacher classroom ratio, district population and per pupil spending. He invited all to attend a tour of the buildings. The district has been offered 50% of the money needed to build a new high school and is looking into this, and requesting input from the community. He reviewed the various efficient practices at the schools to reduce costs. Crestwood's ACT scores are tied for 2nd in the county.

**Next Meeting:** Amie Cajka of the Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Board will be the guest speaker at the May meeting which will be on the 20th. FootPrints will be the featured business. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14AM.

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## 2009-2010 Officers

President - Marie Stehli • 330-562-7620 • [mlscpa@windstream.net](mailto:mlscpa@windstream.net)

Vice President - Christine Pitsinger • 330-414-6486 • [communityjournal@yahoo.com](mailto:communityjournal@yahoo.com)

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Website / Newsletter - Christine Pitsinger • 330-414-6486 • [communityjournal@yahoo.com](mailto:communityjournal@yahoo.com)

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### Mantua-Shalersville Chamber of Commerce Goals:

- To advance the commercial, industrial, educational, agricultural and civic interests of the area
- To work together to support and promote local businesses and their products
- To work with elected officials to promote proper planning and growth
- To support and work toward local harmony for the betterment of citizens and businesses in the area