

January 2009 Meeting Minutes

The January meeting was called to order at 7:41AM on Wednesday the 21st by Chamber president Marie Stehli.

In Attendance:

Christine Pitsinger, The Community Journal
Melanie Miracle, Miraclelot's Long Tailed Aviary
Audrey Baran, K&K Meat Shoppe
Donna Hawkins, Mantua Village
Joe Paulus, Rootstown Chamber of Commerce
Wendy Connair, Garden Girls
Virginia Goodell, Goodell Farms
Andy Hill, Crestwood Schools
Helen Hazlett, Howard Hanna
Jim Prout, Prout & Associates
Janet Esposito, Portage County Auditor's Office
Cheri Mikula, Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Board

David Brokaw, Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Board
Joan Sweet, Middlefield Bank
Cory Richards, K&K Meat Shoppe
Michelle Barnauskas, DMRC
Dorothy Caldwell, Shalersville Township
Trudy Capel, Impact Media Solutions
Bob MacClearie, Mantua Masonic Lodge
Hank Cabot, Western Reserve Kiwanis,
Paulette Nichols, Portage Community Bank
Marie Stehli, Mantua Township
Ellie Stamm, Stamm Contracting

Introductions were made.

Installation of Officers: The installation of officers was led by our County Auditor, Janet Esposito. 2009-2010 Officers include; Marie Stehli as our president, Christine Pitsinger as vice president, Joan Sweet as treasurer, Melanie Miracle as secretary and Becky Newell as membership chair.

• **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

• **Financial Report:** The checking balance is \$8,309.77 The savings balance is \$5,350.65.

• **David Brokaw Announced His Retirement:** David Brokaw of the Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Board announced that he will be retiring and introduced Cheri Mikula, who will be attending the chamber meetings after he retires.

• **Chamber Thanks Dorothy & Paulette:** On behalf of the chamber, Marie Stehli, president, thanked Dorothy Caldwell, 2007-2008 vice president and Paulette Nichols, 2007-2008 treasurer for their service to the chamber. Each were presented with gift cards to Teresa's Pizza.

• **Village Update:** The Christmas tree lighting was a great success. 14 awards were given out to people who contributed services in Mantua. Mantaline is consolidating to Mantua when the facility in Aurora sells. A new business will be coming to the building at the corner of Main and Prospect Street.

• **Shalersville Township Update:** Still keeping up on the roads, using less salt to make supply last through the winter, using more brine and cinders. Spring Cleanup will be May 7th, 8th and 9th.

• **Mantua Township Update:** Township reports having half of their salt supply. Also using cinders and grits.

• **Crestwood Schools Update:** They have a monthly newsletter for the Middle School. Honor Society is being put together, any businesses are encouraged to call if they have any volunteer hours that the students can work to complete their requirements.

• **Scholarship Committee Update:** Dorothy has agreed to again head the scholarship committee, Paulette Nichols will also help. (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be given to Crestwood Seniors.

• **Newsletter Update:** Christine Pitsinger is doing our newsletter, send any chamber related information to communityjournal@yahoo.com

• **DMRC Update:** The Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corporation received \$10,000.00 from the Eaton Corporation. EG&G were paid for work done so far. Michelle Barnauskas announced that on February 23rd from 5:30-9PM they will host a "Marketing Mantua" Seminar. Details will be posted on the web and in the local papers.

• **New Office:** The new Chamber-DMRC-Rotary office is now open on Main street in Mantua, Fridays 4-6PM and Saturdays from 10-Noon. Members are encouraged to drop off their business cards, flyers, brochures, etc. for hand-outs to visitors.

• **Guest Speaker:** Portage County Auditor, Janet Esposito discussed how the economy is affecting tax values, revenues and businesses.

• **Next Meeting:** The next Chamber meeting is February 18th, 7:30AM in the Fire Department Conference Room. Guest Speaker will be John Siman of the Portage County Airport. The Featured Business will be Common Ground Farm & Kennel.

Bob MacClearie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paulette Nichols.