



# March 21, 2012 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:

Tom Kennedy, Marshall's Carpet Cleaning  
Dorothy Caldwell, Shalersville Township  
Ben Prescott, Mantua Village  
Wayne Omaitis, WJ Glass  
Rachel Adkins, Rachel Adkins Design  
Christine Pitsinger, Community Journal  
Nick Ciofani, Josh Mandel's Office  
Joe Iacano, Crestwood Schools  
Solutions, DMRC  
Edie Benner, Advanced Rehab  
Bill Graham, Camp Asbury  
Caren Stutzman, Zagursky's Pierogies

Dayton Hickerson, Grand Promotional Products  
Frank Ruehr, Shalersville Township  
Joan Sweet, Middlefield Bank  
Luke Darrah, Darrah's Car Care  
Nate Adams, Energy Smart Insulation  
Rick Frato, Edward Jones  
Sandy Pelphrey, Weekly Villager  
Brooke Pillets, Crestwood Schools  
Nancy Vines, Shalersville Township  
Bob MacLearie, Mantua Masonic Legion  
Missy Lyle, Mary Kay  
Shirley Schuster, Mantua Township Resident

Jodie Fiala, Jake's  
Linda Clark, Mantua Village Mayor  
John Festa, Mantua Township  
Lonn Safko, Crestwood 4C's  
Maria Schmidt, UH Geauga Medical Center  
Paulette Nichols, PCB Bank  
Ron Lance, Diversified Mini Storage  
Michelle Barnauskas, Business Image  
Ellie Stamm, Stamm Contracting  
Chris Hendershot, Italian Garden  
Becky Tipton, Ameriprise Financial  
Chris Craycroft, Portage Park District

**Meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m.** Introductions were made.

## VILLAGE & TOWNSHIP UPDATES

**Mantua Township:** John Festa reported that roadside spring cleanup will begin soon.

**Mantua Village:** Linda Clark said that the village has applied for a grant to purchase a truck and is also working with DMRC to apply for a grant to enhance the mini park.

**Shalersville Township:** Dorothy Caldwell reported that brush cleanup and road patching are underway. The township office is moving to the elementary school building. They are applying for a grant to buy a new truck.

**Crestwood Schools:** Joe Iacano reported that the schools continue to face budget cuts.

**DMRC:** Members were reminded that the Reverse Raffle will be held this Saturday; tickets are still available. Proceeds will be used to supplement a grant that has been received to build sidewalks and do roadwork on the south side of town. Also coming up is a meeting with property owners in the village. They are exploring the possibility of the village establishing itself as a "Certified Local Government" in order to qualify for grants. DMRC asked if the Chamber would provide a letter of support for the mini park project – planned are safety improvements like adding wheelchair access, putting up railings, and performing electrical work. Bob MacLearie motioned to provide a letter; Rick Frato seconded. The motion was approved. DMRC asked if the Chamber would make a donation to this year's Art on the Hill event. Rick Frato motioned to donate \$600, Jodie Fiala seconded. The motion was approved.

## FEATURED BUSINESS:

**Energy Smart Insulation:** Nate Adams said his business specializes in insulating existing homes. The company offers an "audit", which entails determining where a home is leaking heat and provides recommendations for what the homeowner can do, and whether it may be worthwhile to use a contractor's services.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Business Showcase:** This event will tentatively be held on October 18. More details to follow.

**Golf Outing:** This year's event will be held on June 10 at Sugarbush. The committee needs volunteers to contact potential hole sponsors to ask for their support, please let us know if you can help.

**Sports Sponsorship:** Missy Lyle said that the Crestwood Girls Fast Pitch team has asked the Chamber to sponsor them for the season. Joan Sweet motioned to provide sponsorship at a cost of \$300; Bob MacLearie seconded the motion. The motion was approved. A committee will be formed to determine guidelines for future sponsorships/donations that the Chamber may be asked to provide.

**Canoe/Kayak Access Point:** Chris Craycroft asked for the Chamber to provide a letter of support for a grant that the Portage Park District has applied for. The grant would provide funding of \$50,000 for a public canoe/kayak access point on Price Road, just south of Route 303. Bob MacLearie motioned for the Chamber to provide a letter, Linda Clark seconded. The motion was approved.

**Meeting Location:** Jodie Fiala of Jake's has offered to host future Chamber meetings. There will be further discussion on the issue at the April meeting.

**State Treasurer's Office Update:** Nick Ciofani reported that the Treasurer's office has been able to save \$1.2M. The credit rating for state bonds has been upgraded again. The office has increased the amount of money in the "Rainy Day Fund" from \$0 to \$2.4M.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Business After Hours:** This event was held last week. Around 25 people attended, and it was a good opportunity for networking.

**Scholarship Committee:** Dorothy Caldwell said that so far only one application has been received.

**E-mail Blasts:** Christine Pitsinger reminded everyone that any member is welcome to send her information to send out via a free e-mail blast. The distribution list includes over 400 e-mail addresses, so this is a great opportunity to spread the word about specials or other items of interest related to your business.

## TREASURER'S REPORT, MEMBERSHIP

**Treasurer's report:** As of February 29, 2012, there was \$10,848.59 in the checking account; \$6,316.18 in the scholarship savings account; and \$702.81 in the toy drive account.

**Membership:** There are currently 85 members.

## DOOR PRIZE

**Congratulations** to John Festa, who won a 1/8<sup>th</sup> Page Full Color Ad donated by the Community Journal.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.**