

March 2009 Meeting Minutes

In Marie's absence, Christine Pitsinger conducted the meeting, which was called to order at 7:40.

In Attendance:

Christine Pitsinger, Community Journal
Joan Sweet, Middlefield Bank
Tammy Edge, AFLAC
Donna Hawkins, Mantua Mayor
Cheri Mikula, MHRB
Michelle Barnauskas, DMRC
Hank Cabot, Western Reserve Kiwanis
Virginia Goodell, Goodell Farms
Joe Iacono, Crestwood Schools
Roselie Franek, Advance Rehabilitation
Helen Hazlett, Howard Hanna

Dorothy Caldwell, Shalersville Township
Paulette Nichols, Portage Community Bank
Yen Huynh, AFLAC
Wendy Connair, Garden Girls
Ron Vance, Diversified
Dayton Hickerson, Grand Promotional Products
Edie Benner, Advanced Rehabilitation
Rebecca Tipton, Ameriprise Financial
Martin Hura, Mantua Village Council
Melissa Lyle, Footprints
Jim Oster, Oster & Associates

Introductions were made.

Financial: Treasurer, Joan Sweet, reported the balance of the checking account as of January 31, was \$7,836.51. The balance in the Scholarship Fund savings account was \$5,377.22.

A motion to approve the minutes from last meeting was made by Joan, 2nd by Paulette...voted and passed.

Shalersville Twp: Dorothy Caldwell reported they are busy repairing roads and getting ready for spring. They are getting specs from the Portage County Commissioners for a possible paving project, which involves part of Cooley & Beck Roads. The Spring Cleanup is planned for May 7&8.

Mantua Village: Mayor Donna Hawkins, began by thanking Michelle Barnauskas & the Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corp. for the recent business marketing workshop they sponsored. The Mayor is busy attempting to get monies from the Stimulus Package to be used for infrastructure improvements in the Village. Spring cleanup is scheduled for May 16th. Residents will be asked to bring their items to the service garage this year.

Crestwood Schools: Superintendent Joe Iacona, reminded us about the upcoming tours of the High and Middle Schools. He also announced the High School will provide a room with 25 computers for the upcoming DMRC Business workshop. He also spoke about the government funding process of school districts.

Rotary Club of Mantua: Helen reminded us of the upcoming Talent, to be held Saturday, April 4th at Hayden Auditorium in Hiram. Part of the proceeds will be going to DMRC and the CHS Scarlett Guard Band. The Band has been asked to play at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center Honors program in Washington, DC.

Featured business: The Garden Girls...Wendy Connair gave us a brief overview of the business and what they have to offer.

Communications – We are still looking for someone to step into this very important position.

Golf Outing – Thanks to the four individuals have agreed to help with this year's outing

Revitalization Committee: Michelle reported the Marketing Workshop went well. The next one will be held April 20th at the High School and will focus on "Targeting your message". Spring Cleanup Day downtown will be held May 9th. Volunteers are asked to bring their own equipment (gloves, bags, etc.). Mark July 11th in your calendar. The "Art on the Hill" art show will be held that day, in conjunction with the "Headwaters Adventure Race". The race consists of a 2 mile walk/run from Buchert Park, a 10-mile bike ride to Camp Hi and a "canoe back" to the park. A pancake brunch will follow.

Membership Committee: We have 88 paid members

Scholarship Committee: Dorothy reported we have received 5 applications so far.

Shirley Schuster asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to help develop a business plan for the Portage County Airport. They need 10 to 12 people.

Don Faix Memorial Track Meet: Rosalie announced the event would take place in May. She is asking for members to place ads in the program...\$30 (one program) to \$40 (both programs) for business card size ads.

Guest Speaker - Chris Craycroft, Portage Parks District Chris Craycroft gave a very interesting presentation, including a video prepared with the help of the Corporate Video Class at Kent State University. She also talked about a very exciting project which involves 558 acres in Shalersville Township. This property, which was purchased several years ago by Burton Morgan, in anticipation of, located a regional jetport there. The property will eventually be opened to the public as a park/nature reserve.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45AM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15th at the Fire Department. Our guest speaker will be Crestwood Superintendent Joe Iacono. The featured business will be Grand Promotional Products.