

January 16, 2013 Meeting Minutes

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

2013 - 2014 Officers
Christine Pitsinger, President
Becky Tipton, Vice President
Paulette Nichols, Treasurer

In attendance:

Frank Ruehr, Shalersville Township	Norm Fashing, Friends of Melana	Dennis Bujak, Shalersville Township
Maria Schimdt, UH Geauga Medical Center	Sandy Pelphey, Villager	Luke Darrah, Darrah's Car Care Center
Wayne Omaitis, W.J. Glass	Dayton Hickerson, Grand Promotional Products	Paulette Nichols, Portage Community Bank
Jim Prout, Prout & Associates	Roberta Zuver, Cortland Banks	Ron Lance, Diversified Enterprises
John Festa, Mantua Township	Lonn Safko, Crestwood 4C's	Marie Stehli, Marie Stehli, CPA
Tom Kennedy, Marshall's Carpet Cleaning	Jim Oster, Oster & Associates	Michelle Barnauskas, DMRC
Linda Clark, Mantua Village	Dorothy Caldwell, Shalersville Twp. Resident	Edie Benner, Advanced Rehab, DMRC
Becky Tipton, Ameriprise Financial	Christine Pitsinger, Community Journal	Peter Young, Benefits 1 Group
Nancy Vines, Shalersville Township	Joe Iacano, Crestwood Schools	

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 a.m. Introductions were made.

VILLAGE & TOWNSHIP UPDATES

Mantua Township: John Festa expressed sadness on behalf of the township on the passing of John Vechery, zoning inspector and cemetery sexton. He announced that Jason Carlton will be the chairman of the board for 2013 and that the road dept. has been busy patching pot holes.

Mantua Village: Linda Clark reported that Ben Prescott has been appointed as president of council. She announced that the grant funds for Orchard Street work have been released. She also said the village will be applying for a variance for a sidewalk project the DMRC is working on at the south end of the village, and that the village is in support of the DMRC raising funds to repair the flagpole/tower on the village lawn.

Shalersville Township: Frank Ruehr said that the township has been busy with the usual salt and winter road maintenance. Trees have been cut along Cooley Road. He also mentioned that there have been budget cuts by the state. Nancy Vines said that there are classrooms available for rent in the school building.

Crestwood Schools: Joe Iacano thanked the chamber and community for their support in passing the levy in November. He also announced his retirement, effective July of this year. He said that the community walking program will begin on Friday, February 1st and run for 6 weeks, each Wednesday and Friday from 7-8am at Crestwood Intermediate School. Advanced Rehab and the school host the program.

DMRC: Michelle Barnauskas spoke additionally about the sidewalk project in the village and of the flagpole project. The next DMRC meeting will be held on Friday, January 18, at 7:30 a.m. at Jake's. All are welcome to attend. Also, there will be a planning meeting for this year's Art on the Hill event at Jake's on January 30, at 7:00 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER

Peter Young of Benefits 1 Group spoke the chamber about the potential savings of available on the Workers' Compensation premiums. Benefits 1 Group can combine all BWC savings options to obtain up to 77% in premium savings. He presented facts and figures regarding these savings and encouraged members to contact him with any questions.

NEW BUSINESS

2013 Membership Drive: Christine Pitsinger reminded members to renew memberships and announced that the 2013 window clings are available.

Friendship Alliance Church: Jim Prout said food is being distributed on the second Saturday of each month, from 10 until noon.

Chamber 10 Year Anniversary: Christine Pitsinger announced that the chamber recently had its 10 year anniversary and that an anniversary party is being planned for later this spring.

Crestwood 4C's: Lonn Safko announced that the food cupboard distributed 148 food baskets that fed over 400 people in December.

Shalersville Historic Society: Nancy Vines announced that they will be having an "Elvis" concert on April 17th at 3:00 p.m. at the Shalersville Town Hall. Tickets are \$10.

Senior Day at the Hall: Nancy Vines announced a senior day is held on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Shalersville Town Hall. The event starts at noon and includes lunch and bingo.

2013-2014 Officers: Christine Pitsinger thanked Dorothy Caldwell for her role as treasurer and announced Paulette Nichols was voted in as the new treasurer. Becky Tipton was voted in as the vice president and Christine Pitsinger as president.

Norm Fashing talked about Friends of Melana and its largest fundraiser, the 5K race held at Garrettsville Summer Fest. Sponsorship packets are available. Edie Benner motioned for the Chamber to consider purchasing a sponsorship and to discuss at our next meeting. Dennis Bujak seconded the motioned, and it was passed.

Advanced Rehab: Edie Benner said Advanced Rehab will be holding its "Biggest Winner" contest. See Edie for details.

OLD BUSINESS

Santa's Visit to the Mini Park: Paulette Nichols announced that the event went very well. There were about 45 kids this year.

Holiday Social: Christine Pitsinger announced that the event was the best attended ever, with 89 members and their guests present.

Toy Drive: Christine Pitsinger said that all children received a gift or gift card and thanked the members and community for their generous support of this program. Lonn Safko also thanked the chamber for their support.

MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT, MEMBERSHIP

Minutes: Linda Clark motioned to approve the November minutes; Paulette Nichols seconded. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dorothy Caldwell reported that there is \$1,143.58 in the toy drive account, \$8,021.99 in the scholarship savings account, and \$9,222.69 in the checking account.

DOOR PRIZE

Congratulations to Edie Benner of Advanced Rehabilitation & Health Specialists who won a tote, umbrella and gift set donated by University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.