



Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce ----- May 28, 2013 ----- Minutes

The Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce met for our regular monthly meeting at the Orwell Village Offices at 179 W. Main, Orwell, OH at 5:30 pm.

Members in attendance were Bob Denihan of B& S Publishing; Ed Sutliff of Western Reserve Drafting LLC; Nancy Reider of Who? What? When? Where?; Diana Ristimaki; Dan Tanner of Grand Valley Public Library; Gwen Biennas of Gwen's Catering; Kevin Mitchell of Middlefield Bank; Barbara Klingensmith and Carrie Lemmon of Country Neighbor; Gary Hunter of the Conversation Station; and Jack Nettis of Orwell Village.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Nancy Reider. She led the Pledge of Allegiance. Gary Hunter offered a prayer.

A motion was made by Kevin Mitchell to accept the minutes as corrected from the April meeting as emailed; Gwen Biennas seconded; passed.

The treasurer's report was given by Kevin Mitchell. In addition to the report he said NOACC gave us a \$25.00 gasoline credit card as a thank you for completion of a survey by the chamber president. It will be held and used at some time. A motion was made by Ed Sutliff to accept the treasurer's report; Gary Hunter seconded; passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – We welcome a new member – The Conneaut Foundation.

Festival – Diana Ristimaki, chair – meetings will be stepped up to every two (2) weeks.

Circus – Diana Ristimaki, chair – Presale tickets to area businesses – 136. We keep 25% Tickets available mid-June at Country Neighbor, Middlefield Bank, Huntington Bank, Pam's Hair Magic, and Grand Valley Library.

Community Calendar – continues – Have an event? Contact Gwen.

Ashtabula County Chambers – June meeting cancelled. The next meeting is July 12. The State's Attorney has been notified regarding Ashtabula Area Chamber's seeking a name change to become Ashtabula County Chamber. We have a 98% likelihood of blocking this move.

Reverse Raffle – Bob Denihan, chair. Tentative date – November 16, 2013. \$3000 prize with 150 tickets sold @ \$75 per ticket. Each ticket includes two (2) dinners and one (1) number on the big board. The Legion is offering reasonable rental with the right of first refusal on the catering.

NOACC – Nancy Reider, liaison – Vicki Hawke, the Executive Director has agreed to visit the Grand Valley area to discuss health care, worker’s comp, and other benefits afforded by our alliance with NOACC. Information will be forthcoming.

Orwell Village – Jack Nettis reported

- 1 – The runs were well attended. 140 participated from Pittsburgh, Elyria, Youngstown, Warren, and local people.
- 2 – Concerts in Chaffee Park start on June 19.
- 3 – Orwell’s newsletter has space for a chamber column.
- 4 – Grants are being arranged to help local businesses. More information forthcoming.
- 5 – First Responders are considering a breakfast for the Saturday of the Festival.
- 6 – The high school is working with the village in video production.

Website – Dan Tanner – co-chair. The website is functioning. No problems reported.

Farm Market – Ed Sutliff reported no farmers have stepped forward to sell.

OLD BUSINESS:

Business of the Month – Gwen Biennas was continued for a second month because her business was not featured on all websites.

Grand Valley school calendar – This calendar is mailed to the area homes. It is the one including the bus routes. A business card sized ad space representing the Chamber is available for \$50.00. Bob Denihan motioned to purchase the ad space; Gwen Biennas seconded; passed. Bob Denihan offered to do the ad layout.

NEW BUSINESS:

PINE LAKES offered to host a Chamber picnic. September 8, 2013 has been set. It will be a day of fishing, swimming, boating, volleyball, etc.

Meeting was adjourned by Nancy Reider.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Sutliff -- Secretary