

## **ORWELL – GRAND VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



**P. O. BOX 261 – ORWELL, OHIO 44076 --- [www.orwellgv-chamber.com](http://www.orwellgv-chamber.com)**

### Minutes – March 25, 2014

The Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce met for a regular monthly meeting at the American Legion Hall in Orwell, Ohio.

Members in attendance were Diana Ristimaki; Bob Denihan of B& S Printing; Kevin Mitchell of Middlefield Bank; Stuart Walker of Davis True Value; Ed Sutliff of Western Reserve Drafting LLC; Jack Nettis of Orwell Village; Dan Tanner of Grand Valley Public Library and Tanner Customs; MeLissa Tanner of Tanner Customs; Andrew Davis –Knapp of Grand Valley Public Library; Wayne Carter of the Conversation Station; Mary Lou Motylewicz and Florence Edelman of the Orwell American Legion Auxiliary Post 719; Gwen Biennas of Gwen’s Catering.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Diana Ristimaki. She led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jack Nettis offered a prayer.

A motion was made by Gwen Biennas to accept the minutes from the February 25, 2014 meeting with corrections; Kevin Mitchell seconded: passed.

A motion was made by Bob Denihan to accept the treasurer’s report; Jack Nettis seconded; passed.

-- A disbursement of profits from the Home Show was done. We were given \$735.24. An error occurred. An additional \$122.54 will be coming. This will bring our total to \$857.78.

-- Mitchell advised we received an invoice from Gazette Printing for \$25 or the ad we sponsor for the business of the month.

-- Mitchell also advised we need to pay \$160.00 to St. Mary’s as a deposit for rental of the hall for the Journey Through Grand Valley business expo. Bob Denihan motioned to pay both; Mary Lou Motylewicz seconded; passed.

### **TABLED ACTION – CHAMBER NAME CHANGE**

Chamber Name Change – Kevin Mitchell reported that he spoke to attorney, Jonathan Winer. Mr. Winer’s suggestion is that we proceed by setting up a new articles of incorporation. We will have to secure a new EIN number. Mr. Winer advised he will assist if we chose to continue. The motion tabled last month was brought to the floor. Mary Lou Motylewicz affirmed she wants to maintain her motion to change the name of

the organization from The Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce to The Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce; Stuart Walker affirmed he wants to maintain his second to that motion; the motion passed with one (1) negative vote.

Diana Ristimaki will follow up with NOACC and Anthem Blue Cross regarding the change. This may be completed by the middle of the summer of 2014.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CIRCUS – Diana Ristimaki & Bob Denihan attended a meeting with the Grand Valley Local School Board. The Board offered use of land north of the lawn area as a location for the circus setup and performances. The circus requests 350' x 350'. This area is 200' x 700'. The school stipulated that any and all required landscaping repairs must be done by Stanley Serrine, the school's contracted service. Bob Denihan will follow up and proceed with contracting the circus.

FESTIVAL – A dance will be held at the Legion Hall on May 24, 2014 to offset some of the festival costs. Wyld Ride, the band, will provide the music. They also will appear at the festival.

WINE & CHEESE – The function has been postponed from June until September 2014. Gwen Biennas and /or Peggy Dedek will attend an April 9 meeting with members of The Old Brick seeking their support in hosting the event.

CALENDAR – March 2014 ends a six (6) month trial of the event calendar. Following a discussion, it was determined that the website may be able to host the calendar. Diana Ristimaki spoke with Jonathan Browning of Brown Ink Design. We may change web host service providers. Based on this thought – action was tabled until conversations are concluded.

WEBSITE – See Calendar above.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Correspondence was received from the Geauga Medical Center and the Ashtabula County Animal Protective League for monies sent in memory of Kathy Burkley and Nancy Reider respectively.

Correspondence was received from Katie Baum (as requested) as she seeks support and sponsorship as Miss Grand Valley 2013 with her participation in the National American Miss Pageant. Mary Lou Motylewicz motioned we offer Miss Baum \$50.00 with a request that she return to speak about her experiences; Stuart Walker seconded; passed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The Grand Valley Parent Teacher Organization sent a communication requesting a donation (undetermined amount) in support of the organization. Following a discussion, Ed Sutliff motioned to decline their request; MeLissa Tanner seconded; passed.

Business of the month for April 2014 – Till The End of Time. Business of the month for May of 2014 is the American Legion Auxiliary. Diana Ristimaki is the contact.

MEMBER SHARING:

Conversation Station is continuing with their “Pledge – Secure the Future” campaign. The CS will hold a Chinese Auction on Saturday April 12, 2014/ Tickets are \$5.00

Orwell Village First Responders and Country Neighbor will jointly sponsor a Spring Fever 5K Run on May 10, 2014.

Orwell Village will host Wednesday evening summer concerts starting June 18 running through August 6, 2014.

Tanner Customs is preparing for their work / sales at The Great Lakes Medieval Faire.

Middlefield Bank communicated their community support. Corporate policy supports and / or sponsors groups (after meeting criteria), but cannot support individual ventures.

The library is updating their computer service. They are redesigning their website. They are continuing cataloguing on the new system. Homebound service is growing.

The Legion reported there will be a breakfast on April 6, from 8 – 12; the Legion will have a birthday party on April 12. The organization is 67 years old. On April 17, they will sponsor a spaghetti dinner. On April 19, the Legion and Auxiliary will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt at the Community Park. Tickets are on sale through Legion members for a \$1000.00 raffle to be held at the festival. For Memorial Day – the Legion is offering to dispose of any American flags that are tattered, torn, or worn. Services on May 26, 2014 will be led by local veterans from the community.

Western Reserve Drafting has a busy spring season started.

B & S Printing is having the busiest month in the company’s history.

Gwen Biennas is providing food for several upcoming summer functions.

Davis True Value will be closing their video business on April 30, 2014

The meeting was adjourned by Diana Ristimaki at 7:00 PM

Ed Sutliff – Secretary

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 -- American Legion Post 719 -- Orwell @ 5:30 pm.**