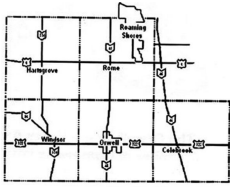


## **ORWELL – GRAND VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



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

### Minutes – November 26, 2013

The Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce met for a regular monthly meeting at the Orwell Village Offices at 179 W. Main, Orwell, Ohio.

Members in attendance were Nancy Reider of Who? What? When? Where?; Gwen Biennas of Gwen's Catering; Diana Ristimaki; Ed Sutliff of Western Reserve Drafting LLC; Kevin Mitchell of Middlefield Bank; Jack Nettis and Julie Mordesovich of Orwell Village; Andrew Davis of Grand Valley Public Library; Joanne Bevacqua, reporter from The News; Penny and John Endruschat of Yankee Bake Goods; Wayne Carter, Debbie and Jim Wann from the Conversation Station; Mary Lou Motylewicz of the Orwell American Legion Auxiliary Post 719; MeLissa and Dan Tanner of Tanner Customs. A guest, Laura Hovanec, also attended.

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

A motion was made by Gwen Biennas to accept the minutes from the October 29, 2013 meeting with corrections. Kevin Mitchell seconded; passed.

The treasurer's report for October 2013 was given. Ed Sutliff motioned to accept the report as presented; Jack Nettis seconded; passed.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – We welcome a new member:

Dan and MeLissa Tanner of Tanner Customs  
P. O. Box 404 – Orwell, OH 44076 -- (440) 319-9755 & 319-1144  
[tannercustoms@yahoo.com](mailto:tannercustoms@yahoo.com)      [www.facebook.com/medievalmillinery](http://www.facebook.com/medievalmillinery)

ACTIVITY CALENDAR – Contact Gwen Biennas for postings to the calendar. Member businesses are invited to list their functions. [gwenscateringandmore@yahoo.com](mailto:gwenscateringandmore@yahoo.com)

COUNTY CHAMBERS – The Home Show (sponsored by the Chambers of Ashtabula County) will be held at Ashtabula Towne Square (Mall) during the first weekend in March 2014. Information will be available through the website.

NOACC: -- 1) Diana Ristimaki was awarded the "Bright Star" by NOACC. She demonstrated strong leadership abilities, community service, and organizational skills.  
2) – A representative is needed to attend a NOACC meeting in April in Sandusky. Dates will be forthcoming.

WEBSITE: Andrew Davis and Dan Tanner – co-chairs. They ask that each member carefully review what is submitted.

ORWELL – Jack Nettis – administrator. A zoning study on parking is being conducted in the village. Joanne Bevacqua, the chairperson for this study, seeks community input.

CHRISTMAS PARTY – Set for December 6, 2013 at Orwell North Presbyterian. Alex Taipale will be the featured entertainment.

OLD BUSINESS:

FESTIVAL RELOCATION – A proposed site plan for the school yard was prepared. Committee members and school representatives met with Dave Dillon from the Illuminating Company. A proposed layout of rides, booths, etc will be done.

CIRCUS – Landscaping services were required to repair ruts to the Kovats property. Brad Bellas, a landscaper from Rock Creek, offered to do the repairs for \$1000.00. The Kelly Miller Circus reimbursed the Chamber for \$500.00. The overall proceeds to the Chamber were about \$1500.00. There is discussion about inviting the circus in 2014.

Village sign posts – The Ruritans were contacted. Dave Strong, the president, said the Ruritans would be glad to repair the sign posts at all four (4) main entries to the village if help can be found.

Business of the Month for January 2014 – TANNER CUSTOMS

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: Diana Ristimaki was elected president by ballot. A motion was made by Ed Sutliff to accept the uncontested slate of officers; Kevin Mitchell seconded; passed.

Doris Cook's husband passed. Flowers will be sent.

Gwen Biennas motioned to support St. Mary's Mardi Gras by purchasing tickets for a dinner for two (2) to attend. Any prize money from this ticket goes to the Chamber; Kevin Mitchell seconded; passed.

A survey will be done to determine best day and time for meetings in 2014.

The Old Brick sign has been replaced.

Diana Ristimaki motioned to support the Orwell First Responders Auxiliary with a gift basket as a Chinese auction donation. This basket will be given for a Polka night at St. Mary's on Jan. 25, 2014. The cost will not exceed \$75.00; Gwen Biennas seconded; passed. Diana Ristimaki will organize purchase and delivery.

Adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Sutliff, Secretary

The Chamber normally meets twelve (12) times a year for regular meetings. This year that meeting would be December 31. To move it forward one (1) week would put it on Christmas Eve.

The meeting for December has been cancelled.

The next regular meeting of the Orwell – Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce will be January 27, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the Orwell Village Office Complex at 179 W. Main.

Happy Holidays to all!