



**Columbia Chamber of Commerce –Board Meeting Minutes– 3/4/09**

Meeting called to order by Debra Rose at 6:44 PM held at the Columbia Hills Country Club.

- Roll Call:**
- [ X ] Debra Rose-President (09,10,11,12)
  - [ X ] Louren Price-Vice President (09,10)
  - [ X ] Patty Rolko -Treasurer (09,10,11)
  - [ X ] Lynne Cook- Secretary (09,10,11)
  - [ X ] Wayne Brassell – (09,10,11)
  - [ X ] Marnie Butler – (09,10,11,12)
  - [ X ] Joe Desmond – (09,10)
  - [ ] Ray Gurnick- (08,09,10)
  - [ ] Joe Mesko – (09,10,11)
  - [ ] Vi Seidel - (09,10,11,12)
  - [ ] Jim Wright Sr. - (08,09,10) attending an Auxiliary Meeting

Pepper Richardson attended as an Associate (non-voting) at the request of Patty Rolko.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES: 2/4/09**

Debra Rose asked for a motion to be made on the following board minutes for 2/4/09. Joe Desmond made a motion, Marnie Butler 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to approve the 2/4/09 board meeting minutes with changes. Debra Rose called the motion to vote: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstained motion carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

- **ACCOUNT BALANCES**
  - ***Main Account Balance – \$5,807.71***
  - ***Engine Show -\$696.26***
  - ***Homecoming Account Balance -\$6,409.32***
- **PRESENT BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

Patty Rolko submitted the following bills for payment

Homecoming Account Bills			
	Expense Report	\$92.36	Supplies & Postage
	Total Bills	\$92.36	

Main Account  
Bills

March Phone Bill	\$41.05	
Insurance Premium	\$429.75	
Debra Rose	\$810.35	Conference
Sundaes in the Park	\$25.65	Pizza
Total Bills	\$1,306.80	
Grand Total	\$1,399.16	

**Debra Rose asked for a motion to be made on allowing the payment of the bills as presented. Joe Desmond made a motion, Lynne Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to approve the payment of the bills as presented. Debra Rose called the motion to vote: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstained motion carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

□ **BUDGET FOR 2009**

□ **VALENTINES DANCE**

There were 122 tickets sold for the Valentine's Dance for revenue of \$3,050.00. We received \$246.00 in 50/50 revenue and the winner of the raffle donated \$40.00 back to the Chamber. Gross receipts totaled \$3,336.00. Gross invoices totaled \$1,800.00 (Band =\$630.00 = Catering =\$1,170.00). Net profit totaled \$1,536.00. The Valentines Dance will be offered again next year.

□ **PLACEMAT ADVERTISING – FISH FRY**

We have enough advertisements for one side of the placemat. That's \$1000.00 for the Homecoming Account.

□ **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

□ **WEBSITE**

Pepper Richardson estimates that it will take another two weeks for the website to be completed and then we can switch over to the new site. The old site does not show that we are under construction. It was decided that minutes would no longer be put on the website. Members can request to have minutes sent to them if they prefer. It was discussed to put on the old website something like "New & Improved website coming soon! Easier to Navigate". We don't want to lose interest because the old website is so outdated.

□ **SCHOLARSHIP**

The Festival of Trees will help to fund the Scholarship as was stated in the advertisement. An exact amount to be donated will be decided at a later date. Joe Desmond mentioned that the Chamber does not have to donate the \$1000.00 for the Scholarship that the Chamber is giving out.

□ **NEWSLETTER**

The estimated cost of mailing a Newsletter and information is \$550.00 per issue. Wayne Brassell mentioned that a good topic for the Newsletter could be Members Helping Members, Keeping Business in Columbia Station. Chamber members could offer other Chamber Members discounts at their place of business.

□ **MEMBERSHIP**

Lou Price said one way to keep members is to contact them and see how their business is doing. While they are on the phone, invite them to the April meeting. Mentioning who the guest speaker for the evening will be might gather interest. Patty Rolko would like Lou Price to be on the Ambassador committee and call 2-3 weeks prior to meetings and also verify e-mail addresses of members.

□ **CCEO CONFERENCE**

- *Card Check Issue*- 5/3 Bank has a better rate and it would be a good idea to check and see if the present credit card machine can be reprogrammed.
- *At the conference Debra mentioned that when accepting credit cards it is not permitted to list an up charge for the card fee.*
- *CITSLINC – Go Tours puts together a package tour (such as to China) and all expenses are in one package. Lou Price is going to look into it further.*
- *OHIO CHAMBER – Lou Price mentioned that EFT transactions for Chamber Dues might work for the chamber.*

□ **ENGINE SHOW**

The Littlest Heroes will partner with us in a Poker Run that will finish at the Engine Show. Joe Desmont will run the Corn Hole games this year and we can give away a set of boards as prizes.

□ **HOMECOMING**

Jim Wright (not present at the meeting) had suggested to a Board member that since Homecoming attracts over 20,000 people perhaps we could permit advertising on billboards at \$150.00 each. It was also suggested using a business card holder to display business cards.

□ **BENEFITS**

Ron Krisko is waiting for information.

**OLD BUSINESS**

□ **COMMUNITY GUIDE-**

Bulk Mailing of Newsletter & Community Guide info to 2280 Businesses

**NEW BUSINESS**

□ **SPEAKERS FOR 2009**

- 4/8/09 – Lorain County Magazine
- 5/20/09 – Lorain County MRDD
- 7/15/09 –
- 9/16/09 – Marnie Butler will check into Ohio Emergency Planning Management
- 11/18/09 -

□ **SWG**

Representatives for the 4/21/09 meeting will be Lou Price & Jim Wright for Homecoming and Lynne Cook for the Chamber.

□ **AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009**

Cobra must be 35% paid by employers when an employee has left the company.

**COMMENTS**

Wayne Brassell noted that our articles and announcements seem to get lost in the Rural Urban newspaper. He suggested that we add our logo even though the Rural Urban would charge us an up charge for the artwork. Perhaps we get them to charge us a one-time setup fee instead.

Patty Rolko suggested that one of our speakers might be from Columbia Safety describing the program that she headed last year. This program helped to organize and finance a project to allow two deputies to patrol area businesses in the evening. She would be willing to help the Chamber with the project. She would need at least ten businesses to sign up. The suggested price would be \$100.00 per member and \$150.00 per non-member of the Chamber.

Debra Rose mentioned that if we had a 501 C4 status instead of the C3 we could lobby and get into political campaigns that might better help the community. Debra is going to look into that further. Also, she is going to make a stimulus request and ask for \$158,000.00 in order to bring back the two deputies that were laid off in the area.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Patty Rolko and Joe Desmond 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Debra Rose called for a vote on the motion and Motion was carried by unanimous vote 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstained. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.**

**Debra J. Rose (Signature on file)**

Debra J. Rose/President

**Lynne Cook (Signature on file)**

Lynne Cook/Secretary

Date Accepted: 4/1/09