



## Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce May 31, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Present: Bob Denihan, Stuart Walker, Annette Herbster, Gwen Biennas, Ed Sutliff, Barb Klingensmith, Doris Cook and Julie Mordesovich

Pledge of Alliance

Moment of Silence

Review of April meeting minutes.

Motion to approve – Ed Sutliff

Second the motion – Julie Mordesovich

Treasurer Report – Annette Herbster

See report – will be submitted for review

Correspondence – Gwen Biennas

No correspondence

Village Update – Julie Mordesovich

\* They used 4 bins for cleanup on May 21.

\*Planning on repairs on streets, water and sewage work

\*Parks & Rec are out planters are being watered on a regular basis and we hope there will be no theft this year

\*First Responders had the breakfast on Memorial Day, it wasn't as good as last year.

\*Fire Department will have their Chicken Dinner on September 11. Looking for help from the Chamber or other organizations.

\*Donations for the Concert in the Park Series are about \$2,000 short. This will not come out of Village funds. At this time they are not sure if they will have the car show on June 22. Dave Hartz is in charge of the car show.

Business Expo – Gwen Biennas

We will be planning to have our Business Expo on July 13 which we are the featured organization. We will be serving: pulled pork sandwiches, chips, pop, water and dessert on a donation basis. We are looking to get as many donations to defray the cost of the food. Doris ran an article in the paper and we got one phone call from Grand Valley Pizza who offered to donate the paper products and if we needed them to donate anything else. At this time they are not Chamber Members but was reassured they will be recognized for their donation. Also, Davis True Value offered towards donations. Gwen's Catering will donate dessert. We hope we have a great turnout since this will be outside, we hope business like Midway, Gallo's and Reel's will bring cars or tow trucks to show.

Chamber Page – Stuart Walker –  
June – Save A Lot  
July – Midway

Ashtabula County Fair Booth – August 9-10 we need to schedule people to be in the booth.

NOACC – Annette Herbster

- \*Annette & Ken went to Sandusky for the workshop and it was well worth the trip.
- \*Benefits Group – Employee 2016 Open Enrollment, can help our business w/benefits.
- \*Community Energy Advisors – Annette Herbster & Bob Denihan met with this group and received a lot of information on how to save on business utilities.
- \*Independent Evaluation on your companies
- \* Anthem – medical program 2-50 employees SOCA

We are continually looking for more programs for the small business

Barb Klingensmith mentioned what the guidelines are on what is to be posted on the Community Sign. The board will set up guidelines and forward them to our Chamber and to Barb. It is very important that everything be in writing.

Doris Cook mentioned to help get our membership up is that Middlefield Chamber offers an Associate Membership for only \$20 but they would have no benefits.

New Website - Annette Herbster

- \*We have a new webmaster, Kimberly Herbster Crites and we are working on a new website. It is not published yet.
- \*All business will be contacted for their information.
- \*To make any website work it should be 3 clicks and you are where you need to be
- \*Hopefully it will be up and running by the end of June.
- \*Andrew Davis who use to do the website has been unreachable for any help.
- \*Please be patient we are still in transition
- \*Links to IRS, Village, Facebook etc...
- \*We need a debit card for this and we will be getting one with a limit of \$500 to be used for the website billing.

Ed Sutliff made a motion to thank the board for their hard work and we should move on.  
Second the motion – Doris Cook

Stuart David will be going to Bloomfield Festival to talk to a ride company to try and book them for a Festival in 2017. The Festival isn't dead, we are trying so hard to get things set up for next year.

- \*The Rotary and the Ruritans said they may be able to help for 2017.
- \*We need a main attraction – we need to do facetime with these companies.

Business Round Table –

\*Julie Morsedovich – First Responders – June 14 there will be a meeting at 6 p.m. to start planning the Chicken Dinner on September 11 at the Orwell Fire Department. We have heard the Amish community would like to be a part of it.

\*Doris Cook – Convention Bureau will try and take out the ad for the 2016 Fall Festival for September.

\*Ed Sutliff – 4 houses, There is a registered Architect looking to join our Chamber. Ed will give Gwen the information to contact him for membership and Business After Hours.

\*Doris Cook – new format for the paper, the sports are in a section all their own.

\*Barb Klingensmith – Summer Food Program for the youth 1-18 years.

\*Gwen Biennas – 3 graduation parties, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party, cooking for an elderly gentlemen in Orwell on the weekends and part of a wedding in July. Looking for a different location.

\*Annette Herbster – tax season is over but we are still busy; fixing online issues, a lot of fraud, we are still growing. Mentioned that it was nice that the flags on Memorial Day were flown down by her business.

\*Stuart Walker – store is very busy

\*Bob Denihan – we are slow and it is a good time for cleaning.

Motion to adjourn – Julie Mordesovich

Second the motion – Bob Denihan

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Biennas  
Grand Valley Area  
Chamber of Commerce Secretary