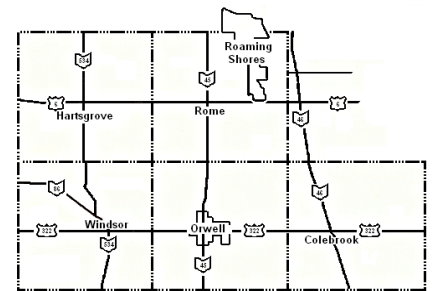




Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 261

Orwell OH 44076



Grand Valley Area Chamber of Commerce August 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Present: Bob Denihan, Stuart Walker, Annette Herbster, Gwen Biennas, Julie Mordesovich, Kevin Collins, Pat Hunter, Tim Ponn, Doris Cook and Dr. Bill Nye – Grand Valley School Superintendent

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Review of minutes from March & April meetings

Motion to accept – Julie Mordesovich

Second the motion –Doris Cook

Treasurer Report – Annette Herbster

Submitted for review

Correspondence – Gwen Biennas

Outgoing - Emails – meeting reminders info on Business Expo & Thank you for Expo

Received – Penn Ohio Corp. Ashtabula - bill for the Festival

Received – statements from Middlefield Bank

Received – Community Energy Advisors check

Received – emails from Carol Holloman from the GV Library for information
for the library newsletter

Received - from the Gazette our percentage from the advertising for the Festival

Received – email, Growth Partnership

Received – email, Business Compass Meeting for September

Chamber Page – August, GV Lanes; September, Winer Legal Services; October, Ray Bros; November, Orwell Tool; December, Tri County Veterinary Clinic.

*Since we had no ad rep to work on the Chamber Page we agreed to bump everyone back a month.

Grand Valley Festival – May 24-27, 2018

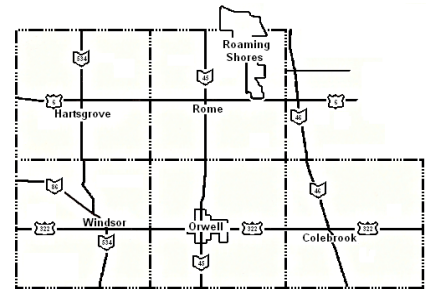




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- *Stuart Walker –*Contract has been signed for next year.
- *Joyce Merritt has agreed to take care of the parade again.
- *Queens Pageant possible Thursday., Parade maybe Friday., Pet Parade Possible
- *We will be building on what we have.
- *We are having a Gun Raffle to help offset the cost of the Festival. We have a total of 150 tickets to sell and when we have them all sold we will draw the winning ticket.

Business Expo Wrap Up – We had a great Expo on July 26. We had 14 business participating. Please see report given at the meeting.

Next Chamber Dinner Meeting – September 26 at the Colebrook Community Center @ 6:30 p.m.

We are in need of a Chairperson for the 2018 Nomination Committee.

Community Energy Advisors – Annette Herbster, we need to take advantage of this. This is open to all Chamber Members. We do receive a small stipend back each month. The application for save money on our electric bill can be found on our website.

Dr. Bill Nye - information about the school can be found at: <http://grandvalley.school>

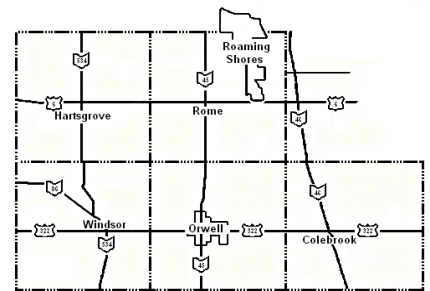
- *no more mailed calendars everything is online
 - *we had a smoother transition this year
 - *our athletic teams are doing well.
 - *our challenge is working on the curriculum
 - *we have lost children and that means losing revenue
 - *we have reached out to the Amish community to help with their education. There are 15 Amish schools in our area.
 - *jobs are not in our area as they were before so families move out of the district.
 - *we closed the field house
 - *we offer college credit classes on our campus.
 - *we had moved positions around, some teachers teach 2 subjects.
 - *we still on the football arena. We are being very frugal. We don't want to owe anymore money.
 - *there is still a legal lawsuit on the roofing.
 - *money to be on chrome books came from the PTO, smart boards came from the general fund.
 - *next year we may have to rehire more teachers.
- Doris Cook asked – plans for the empty land surrounding the school. *Dr. Nye response, “we use it for Cross Country. We keep it brush hogged and maintained.
- *we have room to expand to the north and to the west.
 - *considering a soccer field. We have 80-90 events on the football field.
 - *we have 3 autistic units.
 - *House Bill 10 - pushed by courts, so many hours of truancy program for students and parents.
 - *Thank you for letting me come and speak to you today.



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Business Roundtable:

*Pat Hunter, Conversation Station – will open the Tuesday after Labor Day for students 4th grade and up. Bonnie Gabor is the new director, every year is different. The CS will have LaRue Fundraiser on September 16. They worked with the library on the eclipse event.

*Julie Mordesovich, First Responders – still working around funding to repair the Fire Hall Floor. We have no flood insurance. We are trying to build up the auxiliary. The guys have been very busy.

*Dr. Bill Nye, GV School – we also, had flood damage in our field house.

*Tim Ponn – business is good for the past month – month and a half.

*Kevin Collins, Orwell Tool – new business model, working on more online sales.

*Doris Cook, The Gazette – getting new ad reps but haven't met them yet.

*Stuart Walker, Davis True Value – Back to School is done.

*Annette Herbster, Herbster Tax Service – extensions are coming up, getting things squared away, really busy.

*Bob Denihan, B & S Publishing – printing business not too bad, things have slowed down but are still ok.

*Gwen Biennas, Gwen's Catering – class reunion coming up in the next week, working a couple other projects.

Motion to adjourn - Julie Mordesovich

Second the motion – Pat Hunter

Respectfully Submitted

Gwen Biennas

Grand Valley Area

Chamber of Commerce

Secretary