



MINUTES – March 10, 2009

The Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. at the village office.

The meeting was called to order by Mark Obringer, president, with the following trustees present: Dan Broering, Ken Obringer, Greg Homan, Jon Gardner, Jill Timmerman, Kelli Steinbrunner, Lisa Niekamp-Urwin, Jamey French & Randy Kaup. Village Administrator, Eric Thomas was also present.

The February minutes were approved with a motion by Greg Homan and a second by John Yoder.

Treasurer's report was given by Dan Broering with a reported balance, as of February 28, as checking = \$4,627.63 and Gift Certificate account at \$6,608.66. Kelli Steinbrunner moved to accept the treasurer's report and Ken Obringer seconded.

Old Business:

Kelli Steinbrunner gave a review of the recent Chamber Banquet, sharing comments that members gave. Overall the banquet was a great success. Everyone spoke highly of the food and the great social activity that is gave to the members of the entire community. Other trustees shared positive comments that they received as well.

Old business continued into the 2009 Membership Renewal. Trustees decided to email all members a renewal form communicating April 10, 2009 as the deadline to have your renewals turned in. Members will also be able to access the Chamber's new website to obtain an Annual Dues form. Any questions in regards to your renewal, please contact Kelli Steinbrunner at kelli.steinbrunner@accutechfilms.com or at 419-678-8700 ext. 105.

Continuing In old business, the trustees continued their discussion on the Chamber's website. Lisa Niekamp-Urwin with Tomorrow's Technology Today, updated the trustees on the new website. The website is up and running and currently lists upcoming events, pictures and other information. All members are asked to visit the website and communicate items of interest that you would like to see. The website for the Chamber can be found at:

www.coldwaterchamberofcommerce.com. Members will be able to use the website to stay up to date on minutes from meetings, upcoming events, seminars, and any other information that relates to the chamber. Tomorrow's Technology today will be managing the site on behalf of the Chamber.

Tabled from last meeting, was the discussion of donation to the annual Arts in the Parks . The trustees voted to donate \$500.00 towards this event.

Finishing in Old business, Greg Homan updated the trustees on the Endowment Fund that he and the committee has been researching. To date they have been in contact with other local trustees of Endowment to determine if this is something that the Chamber would like to pursue. Greg is collecting information and will update the trustees on his finding and report back accordingly.

New Business:

Mark Obringer addressed the need to consider an annual fundraiser to help support the many projects that the Chamber contributes to all year long: senior civic projects, scholarships, Business Expo, Chamber banquet, Community Picnic, seminars, etc.

Ideas of having a Chamber Putt-Putt golf outing was discussed along with several other ideas. Chamber trustees were asked to come to the April meeting with ideas of fundraising projects. Members are encouraged to share fundraising ideas as well. The funds would go to help support the many projects that the Chamber supports.

Greg Homan updated the trustees on the upcoming Seminars and Business after Hours Socials.

March 25th, the chamber will be hosting a computer seminar sponsored by Tomorrow's Technology Today. This will be held at the Training Center at Accutech Films. This seminar is for every type of computer user and will address topics on Microsoft Office 07, Web presence and more. A box lunch will be provided and will run from 11:30am – 1:00pm. Seating is limited so please do not hesitate to send in your rsvp. A flyer announcement will follow to all Chamber members.

For any members who may have missed the impressive Open House of Briarwood Village, the Chamber will be hosting a Business After Hours on May 21st, 2009. This is a great opportunity to see this state of the art facility in addition to networking with other local businesses.

Mark Obringer also communicated that Cintas Corporation is now offering a new service of paper shredding. They will provide the bins to any business to support them in shredding any confidential information. Cintas will be offering a discount to chamber members for this service. If interested please contact President Mark Obringer at mobringer@mercersavings.com.

John Yoder and Randy Kaup shared the need for the Chamber to file as a non-profit organization. Dan Broering is to ensure that this is completed.

Mark Obringer also shared a Thank you note that was sent from VJ and Marilyn Westerheide in relation to their recent award of Citizen's of the Year.

With no other business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned by John Yoder and seconded by Kelli Steinbrunner.

Announcements: All members please, be sure to return your annual dues by April 10th. The renewal form is the second attachment to these minutes. Please update your business information and forward in your payment. Note, that you also have access the annual due renewal form via the new Chamber website at www.coldwaterchamberofcommerce.com

Also mark your calendars for the computer training seminar sponsored by Tomorrow's Technology Today scheduled for March 25, 2009 from 11:30am – 1:00pm. Seating is limited so be sure to send in your RSVP as soon as possible to kelli.steinbrunner@accutechfilms.com or lurwin@TTechT.com.

Also remember to come see the new Briarwood Village facility at the Business After Hours event scheduled for May 21, 2009. Details to follow.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL14, 2009 AT 7:30 A.M. AT THE VILLAGE OFFICE. AS ALWAYS ANYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.