

Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting
March 8, 2007
Minutes

Members in Attendance: Adrienne Chesire, Chamber of Commerce; Ellen Hoover, Millworks; Susan Miller, YSI; Elisabeth DeForest, YSI; Karen Wintrow, Interior Source & YS Council; Jeff Singleton, Friends Care Center; Priscilla Moore, Mr. Fub's Party; Dan Young, Young's Jersey Dairy; Donna Avnaim, Déjà Vu; Vicki McClellan, Ertel Publishing; Terre Pope, Global Gallery; Marlin Newell, Children's Center; Lynda Sirk, Antioch College; Eric Clark, Springs Motel; Eileen Jones, Leadership YS; Virgel Hervey, Leadership Institute; Florence Randolph, Leadership Institute; Kevin Gevedon, DVD Commercial Production; Joan Ackerman, Community Foundation; Mary Alice Wilson, Dark Star Books; Laura Carlson, Arts Council; Angela Jones-Glukhov, Antioch College

The meeting was called to order at 12:05, followed by introductions of the members. One change to the minutes was made regarding the spelling of Déjà Vu. Ellen Hoover brought forth the motion to accept the minutes for the last membership meeting; Jeff Singleton seconded. The motion carried.

Announcements:

Laura Carlson spoke to the membership about the **Yellow Springs Center for the Arts** steering committee's work towards an arts center and the upcoming three days of workshops, April 23-25th.

Virgil spoke about a new program at the Leadership Institute. The Spring program is entitled "**This is our Village**", a series of three potlucks. The intention is to introduce new people to the history, geography, and geology of the village, as well as key people within the town (police chief, mayor, village council, etc.) It is also an opportunity to become familiar with over 100 non-profit entities working with volunteers within Yellow Springs. The first potluck will occur at end of April. The institute is seeking gift items, materials to add to a welcome package and is hoping for chamber support to publicize these events.

Karen thanked Mark Crockett for hosting the last **Business after Hours** at Rita Caz Jewelry Studio. The next **Business After Hours** will be at The Friends Care Center, hosted by Jeff Singleton on March 15th at 5:30 pm.

Work is underway to publish "**Waterways and Pathways**" again. The cost is \$50 per ad and the publication is offered at over 300 locations. Contact the Chamber office if interested.

Yellow Springs will take out a two-page spread in the next edition of "**Discover the Dayton Region**," -- a relocation publication. The piece will be prepared by Linser-Pelle Design and will be funded by CIP, the Chamber, Village Township, the YS Schools, as well as some of the large companies within Yellow Springs.

Antioch College announced upcoming events for the merchants to be aware:

- Bike Tour in August. The college is expecting 600 cyclists to stay on the campus overnight as they ride through our area
- August 23rd Orientation: The parents of new students will have free time in the morning to explore the village.

- August 26th Orientation: for returning students and faculty. Ideas proposed by Antioch to highlight businesses, *Taste of YS* – booth spaces for both food and other businesses; a listing of local businesses that parents take with them so that they can order items for their children (i.e., care packages, gift certificates, etc.).
- Week-long Chautauqua's. The College requests information from local businesses for all participants.

Board Report:

The Chamber website is exploring new ideas for handling the upkeep of the website.

During the last Board meeting, it was decided that the Chamber offices would be closed during level 2 Weather emergency in conjunction with the approval of the Chamber President.

North Gateway Project: Grant proposal for another \$100,000. Will then go forward with 6% funding from taxpayers.

Chamber reminded members to clear the sidewalks near their stores adequate for wheelchair access. Questions surrounding sidewalks between stores, equipment that could be purchased and/or hiring someone to handle all sidewalk clearing, and liability issues were discussed.

Finance report:

The committee experienced a busy month with lots of dollars coming in and lots of dollars going out. Expenses: lost \$700 for the month, budgeted to lose \$3000. The committee was thanked for getting the budget out so quickly

Marketing Committee:

The completed TV commercial was shown to membership. All 24 businesses that opted into the commercial and paid were shown within the 30-second spot. The commercial continues branding Yellow Springs as a niche market. Shop, dine, learn, live -- it should encourage day trips. A special thanks to Kevin and Adrienne for their work.

The Dayton Philharmonic will be at Patterson Hauer Estate. A few Yellow Springs businesses were asked to participate. It was requested that all Yellow Springs products be placed together under a YS banner and should prove excellent exposure for the village. Priscilla Moore thanked all merchants involved.

Membership:

The committee will be calling all memberships that have expired and research possible new memberships.

Street Fair:

The Street Fair committee has been working on new processes that will be announced as they are solidified. Some of the areas include the proof of an actual physical address to be considered a "locals business",

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Next membership meeting: April 12, 9:00 AM, Bryan Community Center.