

LEBANON VALLEY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
8/12/04 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Larry Benson	Shaker View Farm, Town Board Liaison
Doug Clark	Clark Engineering & Surveying, P.C.
Ginger Delano	Hitchcock House B+B
Ted Delano	Hitchcock House B+B
Heidi Fabiano	Bucky's Bagels, Pizza, etc...
Farid Gruber	Mountain Road School
Sandy Parker	Berkshire School
Peggy Hawkins	Retired
Kristin Knickerbocker	Spring Line Design
Kay McMahon	The Triple Nickel
Lisa Saviano	With These Hands...Therapeutic Massage
Judi Sharp	Judi's Journeys
Nancy Wolf	Darrow School

- I) President Kay McMahon called the meeting to order.
- II) Introductions of attendees were conducted.
- III) Secretaries Report – Kristin Knickerbocker
 - A. **Website www.lvba.biz is operational.** PLEASE NOTE!!!
 - B. Website information forms were distributed for members who wish to be listed on the website.
 - 1. These have been e-mailed to the membership and are also available at www.lvba.biz on the “notices & forms” page.
 - C. Anyone who would like to but has not been receiving e-mail announcements please send your correct e-mail address to info@lvba.biz.
 - D. Paper announcements will no longer be mailed. If you do not have web access you may find hardcopies at The Triple Nickel, Deb's Shear Perfection, and Bucky's Bagels, Pizza, etc... Members in good standing can also ask for a faxed copy by sending a written request to LVBA Secretary, PO Box 25, New Lebanon, NY 12125.
 - E. Meeting Announcements and Minutes are also available on-line on the “notices & forms” page.
- IV) Treasurer's Report – Ginger Delano
 - A. 40 Charter Members have paid dues thus far.
 - B. Account balance is \$3,400.00.
- V) Old Business
 - A. Revised Rack Card that does not need printing was presented. All were in favor and this project will move forward.
 - B. New Lebanon Foundation – Fall Festival
 - 1. Judi Sharp and Lisa Saviano, reported on the New Lebanon Foundation and the Dollars for Scholars program:
 - a. The foundation is not affiliated with the New Lebanon Central School (NLCS) but the children who are eligible to participate are those who reside in the district.
 - b. The purpose is to provide financial support for the academic enrichment of children who might not otherwise be able to participate in sponsored opportunities and activities.

- c. The range of possibilities for programs is not limited.
 - d. Sponsored activities include a Ropes Course for the 7th and 8th graders at NLCS, art courses for at-risk children with potential in this area, and a field trip to NYC to see a Broadway musical for the drama club.
 - e. Fall festival is not the only fundraiser; there is also a walk with statewide Dollars for Scholars participation.
2. Advertising, underwriting of events, donations for the auction, and help running activities at the festival are still being accepted.
 3. Schedules, brochures, and tickets for the Walden Chamber Players and the Chicken BBQ are now available.
 4. LVBA should have an informational booth at the festival.
 5. Previous two festivals have brought in \$4,000 - \$6,000.
 6. Please see www.newlebanonfoundation.com or contact Lisa Saviano 794-6118 for more information.

C. Cell Tower Report – Larry Benson, Town Board Liaison

1. Municipal Communication Solutions has been in contact with the Town Board and more than likely will be enlisted by the town to deal with mobile phone service providers and hopefully make New Lebanon more attractive as a potential location for these companies.

VI) New Business

1. Jeff Marden of Marden Consulting gave a detailed presentation regarding the creation of a website called NewLebanon.net. His presentation was well received. A discussion ensued regarding the possibilities a website could mean both for the Town and the LVBA. Mr. Marden's presentation described how NewLebanon.net would be user-friendly, detailed, and affordable. Therefore, Mr. Marden was invited to speak again at next month's meeting to allow more members to hear first hand about this opportunity.
2. The Comprehensive Plan has been forwarded to the Town Council for public review. The hearing is scheduled for September 16th at 7:00PM at the Town Hall.

VII) Know Thy Neighbor

A. Sandy Parker presented additional information about Berkshire School

1. NYS Board of Education certified school, which serves only the population of Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth.
2. 45 Teachers and 22 Teaching Assistants.
3. The entire population of the Berkshire Farm Center does not attend the school. Some young men are receiving different services, which do not include attending classes at the school.
4. In addition to academic curriculum the school also offers:
 - a. Home and Careers
 - b. Culinary Arts classes in conjunction with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) for which students can gain college credit
 - c. SCCC also offers 12 other areas of study for which students can attain college credit
5. LVBA members were invited to participate in career day at the school

- VIII) Upcoming Meetings
 - A. September 9, 2004 at 6:30 at The Triple Nickel.
 - B. The main focus of the meeting will be the website presentation for businesses and the Town by Jeff Marden of Marden Consulting. The presentation will include viewing of the prototype home page and sample mini business websites via large screen TV. This meeting will be very informative and all are encouraged to attend.
- IX) Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.