



# Oley Valley Business Association

P.O. Box 25

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[www.oleyvalleybiz.org](http://www.oleyvalleybiz.org)

## *February Meeting*

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon at the Historic Pleasantville Inn.

## *OVBA Application*

If you are giving an OVBA application to someone interested in joining the association, please be sure to print out the latest version from our website. There is a link to access it at the top of the "new member" page.

## *Minutes*

The January 30, 2006, meeting of the Oley Valley Business Association was held at the Oley Legion Diner at 7:00 AM. President Bill Griffith called the meeting to order at 7:14 AM.

### *Call to Order*

## *Minutes & Treasurer's Report*

A motion to accept the minutes as published in the January newsletter was made by Lloyd Hopkins and seconded by Mike McCarthy. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report as published in the January newsletter was made by Kevin Bieber and seconded by Lloyd Hopkins. The motion carried. Minerva Hoppes reported that a little over half of the members had paid their dues, and \$615 had been donated towards our Scholarship fund.

## *Attendance*

The total attendance for the meeting was 12 members, representing 11 member businesses.

## *Program*

This was a business meeting, with no program scheduled.

## *Committee Reports*

### **Program Committee**

Kevin Bieber announced that the February 27 meeting would be held at noon. The scheduled speaker, Postmaster Jeff Osborn, had to cancel and no other speaker had been lined up as of this meeting. A suggestion was made to invite the Fire Company for an update; Kevin will follow up.

March 27 will be a 6:30 PM meeting, with guest speaker Crystal Seitz, President of the Reading and Berks County Visitors Bureau.

April 24 will be a 7 AM Business meeting.

Locations will be announced (and updated on the website) as Bill Griffith confirms them.

## **Nominating Committee**

Minerva Hoppes reported that 33 ballots had been returned, and there were no write-ins. Sharon Morrow, Secretary, cast the ballot. All nominees on the ballot are confirmed for the 2006 term:

President: William Griffith  
Vice Pres.: Douglas Kramer  
Secretary: Sharon Morrow  
Treasurer: Minerva Hoppes

Board of Director members (replacing Roxanne Stauffer and Scot Williams whose terms expired in December 2005): Stu Kern and Dr. Jeff Zackon.

## *Old Business*

### **Township Signage**

No update at this meeting.

### **Oley Valley Community Track**

Kevin Bieber reported that the fundraising for the track continues; he believes they have pledges totaling around \$225,000, so they are still a little short of their goal.

### **Christmas in the Valley**

We have not yet received an invoice from Christmas in the Valley for the postage costs that the Association pledged to cover. Roxanne Stauffer will be contacted to find out the status.

### **FBLA**

Four OVBA members served as judges for the FBLA County-wide competition on January 25; they were: Tom Mitchell, Lloyd Hopkins, Kevin Bieber and Mike McCarthy. They were all impressed with the quality of the students in the competition.

## *New Business*

### ***Community Pot Pie Dinner***

Wilma Leininger reported that the Dinner will be held on March 26, with a snow date of April 2. There are posters around town, and tickets can be purchased at Christman's Meat Market or from Wilma. They will need volunteers to help out on Saturday for the preparation and Sunday for serving and take-out. Anyone interested can contact Wilma to sign up.

### ***Oley Fair***

Doug Kramer announced that due to other commitments, he would be unable to chair the Oley Fair Committee this year. There is concern that not enough of our members sign up to help man the booth at the Fair, and many who sign up don't show up. We are asking for someone to step forward to Chair the Committee this year, with the goal of getting volunteers to help update the booth itself to make it more "attractive and interesting," as well as getting volunteers to help man the booth during the Fair. **If you are interested in Chairing this committee, or helping, please contact Bill Griffith as soon as possible.**

Doug also requested that we look into the possibility of clerical support staff for the Association, to prepare mailings and flyers, and make phone calls, among other duties. Since it was determined that our budget would not allow for an Executive Director, perhaps this clerical support staff could be looked at as an affordable alternative. It was mentioned that perhaps the FBLA at the High School might be a resource. Doug agreed to follow up on that.

### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

Kevin Bieber offered 2 suggestions for events we could sponsor to help get our name out in the Community:

- There is a Peach and Ice Cream Festival at the Oley Fire Company in August. They have a Peach Dessert Baking Contest, which we could sponsor for \$300 with 100% going back to the community in the way of contest premiums.
- At the Oley Fair, the Hershey Baking Contest could be sponsored for \$500 – again, with 100% going back to the community. At the Fair, there would be a sign announcing the sponsorship, and the sponsor's name would be mentioned again at the time the awards are presented.

Kevin indicated that if the Association is interested, he would have to know no later than the end of March. Bill Griffith asked that the members give it some thought, and a decision would be made at next month's meeting.

### ***“Signature Event”***

Lloyd Hopkins asked if the Executive Board had met to discuss what the Association could adopt as our “signature event”, since we didn't know what our budget would allow for sponsorship opportunities until we determined what the budget would be for our signature event. Tom Mitchell indicated that the Board had not met, but felt that the Board's responsibility was to be a sounding board and to resolve issues – and that the Officers' responsibility was to put together the charge.

Everyone seemed to feel that Christmas in the Valley would be a good opportunity for the Association, but Kevin Bieber reminded everyone that there was no announcement made that the Christmas in the Valley group would stop handling that event – they just indicated they were getting burned out. Plus, it has been an ongoing challenge to get Association members to volunteer time for events, and Christmas in the Valley would be a time-consuming and volunteer-intensive project to undertake.

It was suggested that if lack of volunteers would prevent the Association from taking over Christmas in the Valley, perhaps we could ease into it by inviting members of that group to a future meeting and ask if we could take responsibility for just one or more aspects of the event. Kevin Bieber will follow up with the group.

This led to a discussion on how to improve participation in Association events by members. There is a small group of individuals who regularly attend meetings and are involved, but that group is not large enough to take responsibility for any major projects. It was suggested that maybe we need to consider being an Association that **contributes** to Community events rather than **spearheading** them. Input is requested from other members of the Association.

**Treasurer's  
Report**

*Oley Valley Business Association  
Treasurer's Report*

Beginning Balance		\$3,614.97
Interest	1/31/06	1.66
Dues (33)	1/16/06	1,650.00
Scholarship Donations	1/16/06	490.00
Dues (15)	1/24/06	750.00
Scholarship Donations	1/24/06	<u>125.00</u>
SubTotal		\$6,631.63
Expenses		
Peripheral Systems	#10619	58.38
PO Box 25		<u>26.00</u>
Total Expenses		\$84.38
Balance as of 1/31/06		<u>\$6,547.25</u>

Total Donations to Scholarship Fund as of 2/20/06	625.00
Total Dues collected as of 2/20/06 (67 members)	3,280.00

*Respectfully submitted,  
Minerva S. Hoppes, Treasurer*

***Adjournment***

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wilma Leininger and seconded by Oscar Egolf. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 AM.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Morrow, Secretary*

*Humor from  
Tom Mitchell*

### **ABOUT GROWING OLDER...**

First ~ Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth ~ I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Eighth ~ One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

Ninth ~ Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Tenth ~ Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.

And finally ~ If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.