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Chris Fisher	Treasurer	First Commonwealth Bank	814-532-7273
Dorene Miller	Secretary	Highland Community Library	814-266-5610
Veronica Hordubay	Membership Chair	Arbutus Park Retirement Community	814-262-2151

**East Hills Business Association
Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2010 – Arbutus Park Manor**

Attendees

Fifty (50) East Hills Business Association members and guests were present.

Opening Remarks

The regular monthly meeting of the East Hills Business Association was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by the President, Kathy DePra.

Kathy thanked Arbutus Park Manor for hosting this month's meeting.

The introduction of all members and guests took place, with the opportunity for brief announcements.

Kathy requested approval of the February meeting minutes, which were available at the meeting and on the EHBA website. Motion was made by John Ricilli, of AT&T, and seconded by Scott Kemmler, of Business Records Management LLC.

Treasurer's Report

Chris Fisher reported that the checking account balance is \$6,739.00. In February, the organization gave \$400.00 in donations, and paid a \$500.00 deposit for the Golf Outing, and \$571.55 for the February luncheon. A calculation error of \$23.52 in sales tax for the February lunch was duly noted and recorded. The balance in the certificate of deposit is \$1,557.00.

Secretary's Report

Dorene Miller reported that 43 paid memberships have been received to date. (It was noted that five applications had been handed out at today's meeting.)

Membership Chair's Report

Veronica Hordubay reported that the St. Patrick's Day Spring Mixer on March 17th at Penn Highlands Community College was a success, and a good time was enjoyed by the 29 attendees, which included 6 walk-ins. Plans for a Summer Mixer in June will be discussed.

Old Business

- Kathy DePra and Rodney Hatfield met with Wessel & Co. for three hours to discuss the forensic audit.

- Wessel & Co. reported a total of \$4,924.00 in missing funds, plus \$619.00 for the unauthorized laptop purchase. (Kathy had found \$4,437.00 in missing funds, a difference of \$487.00.) Discounted audit fee was \$2,000.00.
- The officers reviewed four proposals for the new website, and decided to award the contract to Pappas Development Group. A vote for approval was submitted to the members.
- The February meeting vote summary was announced, with the following results noted:
 - Donation of \$100.00 for the Penn Highlands Community College *Annual Giving Campaign*; donation of \$100.00 for Girls' Night Out; and a donation of \$200.00 for the John B. Gunter Leadership Program for a universally designed playground at Highland Regional Park.
 - Members voted to keep dues at \$35.00 for an individual, and \$50.00 for a business/organization.
 - The forensic audit was approved by a vote of 34 in favor to 20 opposed.
- The organization's 501c(6) application has been completed and needs to be reviewed by an attorney.
- Highland Community Library's address may be used for the purpose of the EHBA by-laws.
- Ed Porada reported that 17 businesses and organizations have signed up for the East Hills banner project, but a minimum of 50 is necessary to proceed. A member asked if the cost of the banner was a factor; Mr. Porada stated that the original estimate was from a local company, which is preferred, but other estimates could be obtained if necessary.
- Joe Ponchione spoke about the Golf Outing which will be held on May 3rd. The fee will be \$125.00, due to the increase of lunch and dinner to \$75.00. Donations are needed. Please see Joe for more information and sponsorship forms.
- The receipt of a thank-you letter from Penn Highlands Community College was noted.

New Business

The following items were presented to the group for a vote:

- Proceed with EHBA website by Pappas Development Group.
- Donation to East Hills Charity Ball to benefit Richland Fire Department:

\$520.00 for 1 table (8 tickets)
\$260.00 for ½ table (4 tickets)
No donation
- Donation to Super-Size Game Night to benefit Beginnings, Inc.:

\$75.00 sponsorship
No donation

Upcoming Events

Vice-President Rodney Hatfield announced that the April 15th meeting will be held at the Arbutus Park Manor; speaker will be Joe Ponchione, of Ponchione Financial LLC.

- May 20th meeting will be held at Anthony's; speaker to be determined.
- June 17th meeting will be held at Anthony's; speaker to be determined.

Rodney introduced our speaker, Leah Spangler, Executive Director, The Learning Lamp, Inc., who presented a brief history of the organization and highlighted their services to children:

Founded in 2003, The Learning Lamp now has 135 employees and serves more than 6,000 children from infancy through high school. The organization partners with schools and families in 50 school districts in Pennsylvania, and provides quality tutoring in reading and math. Scholarships are available; no child in need has ever been denied services.

The Learning Lamp programs include:

- Inclusive preschool and childcare center at the Greater Johnstown Career & Technology Center; partnered with IU 8 to develop this program.
- After-school program at Richland Elementary School; 65 children currently enrolled.
- Summer camp program for children at the preschool, elementary, and middle school levels in Richland, Westmont, and surrounding areas.
- SAT prep and credit recovery for middle and high school students.
- Boys & Girls Club in Moxham at the Park Avenue United Methodist Church; open on Tuesdays and Thursdays; provides homework help and recreational programs. The Learning Lamp's goal is to expand this program to the Prospect area of Johnstown.

After Ms. Spangler's presentation, Nick Pappas was introduced to the group and conducted a brief question & answer session about the new website.

Give-Aways

Winner of \$45.00 in the 50/50 drawing: Barb Fortunato, American Insurance Marketing; funds donated back to the organization.

Winner of two tickets for the 1st Annual East Hills WineFest to benefit the Highland Community Library (donated by Dorene Miller): Joe Ponchione, Ponchione Financial LLC.

Lunch

Winner not recorded, due to end-of-meeting rush.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Barry Critchfield, seconded by Bob Bassett.

Minutes submitted by:

Dorene Miller, Secretary

Date: May 10, 2010

March Meeting Vote Summary

- Proceed with EHBA website 32 yes; 4 no
- Donation to East Hills Charity Ball 21 for sponsorship of \$520.00; 16 for \$260.00
- Donation to Super-Size Game Night 35 for sponsorship of \$75.00; 2 for no donation