

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the

## Greater Perryville Chamber of Commerce

Held at the Gristmill Tavern on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March at 11:30 AM

**Opening:** The Chairman, Matt Roath, brought the meeting to order and welcomed the many non-members that had attended. Apologies were accepted from Deborah Murphy (The Secretary of the chamber).

**Introductions:** In view of the large attendance (54 people) the normal member introduction was waived, and only the visitors were asked to introduce themselves and their businesses.

**Chairman's Report:** The Chairman discussed briefly the growth of the chamber in recent months, and stated that he felt the Chamber was now becoming a force within the town, and that he hoped a member of the Chamber would regularly attend the Town Council meetings, thus allowing the Chamber to be more proactive.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer advised members that we would no longer be providing paper financial documents at meetings (It's a green thing), but the Minutes, Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement and the Bank Reconciliation are all available online. Members must be logged in to view these documents.

The Treasurer also requested that members log in and use the website to register for meetings; this is because menu selections are recorded for the restaurant or caterer, and invoices are produced automatically, thereby saving the Secretary and the Treasurer many hours of work.

The meeting was advised that approximately 50 members still had outstanding dues, and that a reminder would be sent in the next few days.

**2010 Spring Fling:** The Chairman advised the meeting that the Spring fling committee was working hard on the project, but that there was an urgent need for volunteers to assist with various projects.

**Presentations:** Cecil County Libraries: Carolyn Stepnitz, Children's Services Supervisor at the Perryville Branch gave a short presentation on their new "Make a Splash" program for summer reading. The meeting was informed that school; children

who continued reading throughout the summer break fared much better in tests in the fall than children who did not read in this break. The meeting was advised that longitudinal tests made a clear connection between library use in children and the children's' later success in college.

Town Point Developments: Doug Hill and Molly Green gave an update on the development of the Woodlands Community project. Information on this project is now available on their website <http://www.woodlandsperryville.com/> and they are currently receiving applications for property rentals.

Cecil County Department of Economic Development: Vernon Thompson gave a slideshow presentation of business demographics within Cecil County, and then compared them to the other counties within the state, thereby demonstrating that Cecil County has not been damaged as much by the recession as any other county.

**Upcoming Events:** The Chair requested the meeting to advise of any upcoming events, of which there were several. The Treasurer, who is also the webmaster, requested that events be e-mailed to [treasurer@perryvillecc.org](mailto:treasurer@perryvillecc.org) so that they can be published on the website.

**Any Other Business:** There was no other business discussed.

The meeting was the adjourned.

Minutes provided by John Cole, Treasurer, in the absence of the Secretary.