

Minutes of Durham/Middlefield Exchange Club
Aug 23rd 2007 Meeting
By: Ernie-temp secretary.

Treasure's report:

Marv provided final report on the clubs effort last year. Club is in great shape, with a significant balance in the bank. Both Ray and Marv cautioned that this money has to be spent to avoid tax issues.

Peter, Rich & Kenny:

Discussed preparations for the Durham Fair. Al Simon has agreed to provide food again.

Peter opened the meeting to all members to candidly express their feelings regarding the future of the club and some of the issue currently being faced.

Ralph:

Members who attend meeting are penalized due to cost of Dinners....perhaps an award for attendance.

Feels additional publicity is important not only for the General public but to enhance how the members feel about the club....Wants the telephone call list to be more active.

Fred:

Location of Dinner meeting place is biggest concern, would like it closer to home...

Also wants club to think "out of the box"....ref: once a month meeting? Accept higher meal cost

George:

Recommended Lymens for Dinner Meetings....to be investigated.

Liked Table seating (more social) w/ smaller tables

Jack:

Decisions are not democrate enough...Board make too many decisions and membership is not vested in those decisions

Lou:

Supports Bullsheet, wants more speakers from Durham even if it cost \$\$

Jerry:

Suggested developing a relationship w/ Middlesex Chamber of Commerce

Babie:

Supports all the efforts of past presidents....agree w/ Fred

Mentioned that there were a number of club charges (dinner) in the past for membership w/o attendance....did this make for a better club?

Al:

Spoke to effort event chair's go to and membership does not know whats involved.

Should educate membership. Also suggested a raffle for attendance; ie next meal free.

Bob:

Open to different dinner idea's...meeting w/o dinner....get together w/ other clubs

Mark:

Large size of club doesn't mean anything because activity members do all the work.

Suggested long term member mentor newer members

Yvonne:

Feels consistency in meeting/Dinner place is key not so much location.
Durham/Middlefield location for Dinner not available. Make meetings more social ie: cards, games etc.

Kenny:

Don't focus on attendance & be happy w/ the work we get at events.

Michael:

Thought a revamped flyer or Exchange would be useful. Wants more publicity, perhaps a sports event w/ Lions.

Don:

Where we meet is not the key issue, we have to move beyond this and keep it positive. PR is key, in the past it was done by one person. Meetings are too regimented, people are not excited. More members should help get speakers.

Phil:

Based on result of extensive survey; meals & speakers are not important. Most members just want to donate to the community. Many of the other issues are not important to membership.

Ernie:

Membership at 91 is too large; some existing members are member in name only. Large club separates Board from membership. Too much burden in running events on too few. Many of mentioned issues are indirectly a result of large membership

Ray:

Stress volunteer group, keep meeting local, do we need dinner? Reach out to members

Marv:

Encouraged long time member to see things as a new member, wants to integrate Board w/ new members, not enough mingling at meetings, too many clicks.

Rich:

Suggested a concept of Regular and Aux. Members.....Regular members must be on a committee. Same people doing events. Make it interesting, Committee Chairs to speak.

Peter:

Pledged as president, to get input from all members. Having another meeting on Sept 6th at Kings Rest (?) for newer members to get their ideas. Spoke to expanding diversity in the club. Thanked all who attended for their heartfelt comments.

Meeting adjourned.