

# Duanesburg Business Association

Post Office Box 37  
102  
Duanesburg, New York 12056  
www.DuanesburgBusinessAssociation.org



(518) 895-8150 x

## President

Randy Passonno

## Treasurer

Lisa Murphy

## Vice President

Kevin Soucy

## Secretary

Whitney Kantrowitz

## Business and Community United Together Official Minutes of Duanesburg Business Association Meeting

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The regular meeting of the Duanesburg Business Association was called to order on January 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 6:35pm with 10 members and 1 guest in attendance as shown on the attendance record and guest registry.

### Members in attendance:

Ed Greiner	Greiner Home Improvements
Betsy Lupian	Duanesburg Area Community Center
Lisa Murphy	Shakelee Independent Distributor
Whitney Kantrowitz	Trailblazer Creative Concepts Inc.
Gary Drizos	Gary Drizos Electrical Contracting
Kevin Soucy	Country Outlet Framing
Meghan Henderson	Chane's Deli
Scott Osswald	Chamber of Schenectady County
John Sarchioto	Sarchioto Concession
Brenda Schworm	Coldwell Banker

### Guests in attendance:

Robert Ritter	Ritter & Associates LLC.
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**6:37 PM:** Introductions: Brief introduction from all attendee's.

**6:39 PM:** Pledge of Allegiance.

**6:41 PM:** Approval of minutes from last month. Motioned by Kevin Soucy and Seconded by Lisa Murphy. Minutes approved.

**6:42 PM:** Treasurer's report.

Operating Account: \$4,295.52

Fireworks Account: \$3,656.47

Parade Account: \$0.25

Health & business expo: \$500.00

Whitney Kantrowitz motioned and Ed Greiner seconded the motion. Motion approved.

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**6:45 PM: Guest Speaker: Robert Ritter of Ritter and Associates**

Background: The past 5 years, he has been a grant writer for small and large businesses. He will show you ways to get money from the federal government. How to match the needs that you require and where to find the funding you require. The better you articulate the more money you can get. The more you show in need, the more likely you are to get that money. The company can get up to \$400,000.00 a year if qualified. There is a new \$200,000.00 business fund, and if you can show your company creating jobs and maintaining jobs in that area then you might be eligible for some of the money in this fund. Empire state development is a program that can be used too. There are funds for women based companies and minority companies too. For the DACC look at your energy levels and get an energy performance contract. Do holiday match for youth programs. He will inform you of all of the grants available. He will write the grant for you. He gets paid to find it and to write it too. He will see the local officials and go up the ladder to the senator at the end.

**Gary Drizos:** Are you an advocate for your clients? You research what the company needs and then find the funding and then write it?

Yes. The more information you can supply to me the better. I then get the information out to the government official to review. You then get points for every letter you send out and the more points you have, the better your chances. I then get you the grant that you need. I might ask the government official to call someone to make it more personal.

**7:05 PM:** Refreshment & coffee break with dessert.

**7:10 PM:** Member of the month: Brenda Schworm of Coldwell Banking. The move up buyer tax credit is new this year. As long as you haven't bought a home in the past 5 years then you can apply for this tax credit. Duanesburg area had a bad year, the houses were well priced but they never sold. Interest rates are 5% and FHA is still available for buyers.

**Kevin Soucy:** Is there a Coldwell Banker office in the area?

One in Niskayuna but Brenda is a resident of the area. She will come anytime and you can call her anytime.

Whitney Kantrowitz will be the member of the month for February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

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7:15 PM: Committee Reports:

**Membership Committee:** Reminder, an email was sent out about renewing your membership at the beginning of the year. We are working on the membership drive too. Question was asked: Can we filter our website information to other websites? I believe the town site and the DACC site can. We hope to hand out a small book that will talk about the local companies and about the DBA. People can buy spaces in the book, but DBA members will get a space because they paid their membership.

**Fireworks committee:** No update at this time. We will meet at the end of January.

7:30 PM: Unfinished Business:

**Scholarship committee:** Nothing to report this month. If people are willing to make donations, then we should have another account opened up just for the donations.

**Health & Business Expo:** Nothing to report this month. Meeting needs to be made for this month.

**Website:** We still need people to review the website and to let Whitney know of any changes.

7:35 PM: Open house 1/16/10 at the DACC, membership specials all day. It is 12-4pm. It will show what the DACC is all about.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Whitney Kantrowitz, Secretary