

**Valley Venture Minutes**  
**November 14, 2008**

**Place:** Woodland's Credit Union  
**Time:** 9:15am – 11:15am  
**Facilitator:** Derik Brasher  
**Minute Taker:** Lise Grondin-Danault  
**Time Keeper:** Karen Bradley

**Present:** Carla Lapierre, Karen Bradley, Derik Brasher, Eric Lang, Keith Lynch, Laura Lynch, Denise Doucette, Dennis Bisson.

**Absent:**

**Minutes:**

Motion to accept the minutes as written: Laura 1<sup>st</sup>, Keith 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Treasurer's report:**

Motion to accept: Lise 1<sup>st</sup>      Carla 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Motion to Join A V Chamber of Commerce:** Laura 1<sup>st</sup>, Keith 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Three Minute Check In**

**Carla:** Annie Lake has purchased the building where Carla rents space. Carla has caught up on 2 month's rent. Karen Eidle-artist in shop, can use Northway Bank (Gorham Branch) to display art. They have come up with a brochure. As a result, Carla has already received phone calls from that venue. She has had 3 jobs. Carla will be using her IDA money to place an ad in the Yankee Magazine and do a press release.

**Lise:** Looking at the prospect of re-inventing her business due to the lack of clientele. Since all equipment is paid for, she has decided to start by going back to the basics.

**Eric:** Is retired but his clients don't seem to realize that. He is trying to wrap up their 2007 financials and is working to get these people done. Eric is trying to free up time to get domestic things done. He works part time at the T&C one night a week. He has applied for the CCEP.

**Derik:** Has started a full time 40 hour-per-week job at the T&C and has been promoted to Evening Supervisor which included a raise. He is also applying for the CCEP. He plans on talking more on a "project" that he and Eric are working on at our next meeting.

**Karen:** Has completed her application for the CCEP and will apply for the IDA. As a result, has made positive changes such as opening up a business checking account and paying herself from that account. Karen was happy to show the group her new method of keeping track of all of her receipts by using a portable accordion 12 month organizer. Every time she shops, she places her business receipts directly into their allocated slots. In October, Karen's business exceeded her goals; November is a little slower due to personal reasons. She is preparing her Christmas Packages: whoever buys an Arbonne Gift Basket will get a coupon for \$10 off a gift certificate for massage.

**Denise:** Has picked up signing at funerals. She did 3 races at Loudon, in addition to signing the American National Anthem, she sang the Canadian National Anthem. Her music lessons are going well, she has 50 students—kids and adults. She is working on the North Country Talent Show being held on the last Sunday in January at the St. Kieran's Community Arts Center. Her band is doing well, they have cut a demo cd, and will be recording one in the spring—done by Steve Galipeau. Denise will be trying to put together a guitar class for the winter session at White Mt. Community College.

**Dennis:** Has started building an addition to his home and fell off his roof. He walked away relatively unharmed! He has found a niche service/product for his business: building customized odd size pieces. He found that due to a mistake made in the design of a kitchen he was installing, he is building a roll-out spice rack the height of their refrigerator. His client is very happy.

**Laura:** Is finishing up painting for Keith. She will get back in the swing of things with her side of the business. Had to deal with upset customer and make it up to him—good customer service. She will begin doing sales again. Has received a call from another physician in Atlanta Georgia through word of mouth, so that makes 2 sites this month. Has had a considerable amount of printing at the end of last month and beginning of this month so far. She is getting better at pricing, resulting in making more money. For comparison sake, Laura informed us that she charges half what 7<sup>th</sup> Street Graphics charges.

**Keith:** Due to the shoulder surgery, he will be physically unable to work for almost a year. He will focus on assisting Laura with her business.

**North Country Tradeshow 2009 website:** Keith and Laura will activate the website within the next few weeks so we can begin advertising it.

**Tutorial 6:** Derik facilitated this chapter and worked with the group by helping Carla and Lise find value in what they offer to clients.

**Next month—Tutorial 7** – Derik Brasher

PLEASE READ THIS CHAPTER PRIOR TO OUR MEETING, THANK YOU!

**Next meeting:** Friday, December 12, 2008

**Facilitator:** Derik

**Minute Taker:** Lise

**Time Keeper:** Eric Lang