

**Valley Ventures Group Meeting, Microcredit
June 20, 2008
Woodlands Credit Union**

Time: 9:15 – 11:15
Facilitator: Laura Lynch
Minute Taker: Lise Grondin-Danault

Present: Carla Lapierre, Lise Grondin-Danault, Laura Lynch, Keith Lynch, Eric Lang, Denise Doucette, Karen Bradley, Jackie Hawkins, Joyce Presby.

Excused: Rick Alger, Dennis Bisson, Derik Brasher.

Invited Guests: Betty Gosselin, owner of Pathways for Thursday's Child, and Deb Oleson, owner of DOA Billing Services. The guests were invited because they wanted to observe a typical Microcredit meeting in order to start their own group.

Accepted minutes from last month: 1st Keith Lynch, 2nd Jackie Hawkins

Accepted treasurer's report: 1st Keith Lynch, 2nd Jackie Hawkins.

3 minute check in:

Denise D: Is starting up her summer music classes, has increased her prices by \$2. She has 33 students lined up! She will continue singing the National Anthem at Loudon for NASCAR.

Laura and Keith: Has had excellent month. Laura has also raised her prices and finds they are still too low, and is re-assessing how she charges. Proposals go to Keith before they go to the potential client. She has created a website for Pathways for Thursday's Child.

Keith: Has decided to switch to Interior Painting. He has two workers that he oversees during the jobs. Keith will be undergoing another shoulder surgery in July. (Good luck Keith!!!)

Carla: Business has picked up for Carla since she redecorated her windows with the White Mountain Memorabilia. She attributes this increase to more foot traffic now that Genesis is moved into their new building next door. She has tried another form of art—using instruments to make lamps! She is doing very well blogging on the Granite State Matrix. She now uses museum glass to frame artwork and nothing else—better quality. In September she plans on purchasing a new laptop with her IDA account.

Jackie: is finally on disability and working around her illness. Denise offered suggestion: to set one goal for the day, get it done and stop there, set a timer.

Karen: Her medical massage business is shifting. She has had a good month for insurance clients. She is looking into setting up a whole new protocol with computer software to do her billing and have access to a fax machine. Therefore, her landlord is letting her switch back to her original office space, which is bigger and has the fax machine. Her Arbonne business is also doing well.

Lise: June was slower than May due to graduations and weddings. The first two weeks were completely empty... a good time to rest up for the summer months.

Eric: He is being forced into retirement... doesn't like this bullying by the state, and is not doing very well... He will decide whether or not he should step away from Microcredit. ***We sincerely hope he doesn't! We value all of his business insights as well as his expertise as our group's Treasurer.***

Karen Bradley did a presentation to our group on Building Business through Referrals. It was very informative and motivating. She has offered to email her presentation to our members.

TRADESHOW 2009: Lise has reserved Saturday, March 21st at the White Mountain Community College for our tradeshow. Carla offered a theme, so this year it will be called: “Open the Door to Opportunities.” Our guest speaker is Tammy Levesque, owner of The Fitness Edge in Merrimack, NH. We will strategize more at the next meeting. If you have any ideas, please write them down and bring them in.

Tutorial: The group has decided to revive the tutorial, this month will be on “Financials.” This will greatly benefit those who have the IDA account and/or plan on applying for a loan.

If there is time, we will SWOT Derik Brasher’s business again.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15

Next meeting: Friday, July 11, 2008 at 9:15 at Woodlands

Facilitator: Keith Lynch

Minute Taker: Lise or Karen.

Time Keeper: