

## East Paris Business Association Minutes September 13, 2007

Meeting called to order by John at 8 AM, at Ericka's.

Patti Smeelink from East Paris Pharmacy will be at next general meeting to give flu shots for \$25. Contact her if you'd like to receive one. [pattismeelink@aol.com](mailto:pattismeelink@aol.com)

We need a membership chairperson. Let John know if you're interested. Duties include; keeping track of membership applications and records, notifying treasurer of persons/businesses that need to be billed for membership, recruit new members.

The EPBA web site is up and running. It can be accessed by entering:

[eparisbiz.org](http://eparisbiz.org)

[eastparisbiz.org](http://eastparisbiz.org)

[eastparisbusinessassociation.org](http://eastparisbusinessassociation.org)

Let John know if you don't want certain information posted for your business. E-mail addresses will not be posted. The web site will also provide links to members' web sites and newsletters, the Association's mailing address, past meeting minutes, and membership information/registration. Alice will keep it updated, at least for now.

November Social Gathering Update-Denise Chumas reported for the committee. This event, on November 8 at Creative Learning will be open to members and their guests, as well as other area business owners and interested people. This event will replace our November general meeting. John will speak to introduce EPBA and welcome guests. Wine, beer, coffee, soda and water will be served along with appetizers. Let a committee member know if you would like to provide any food or drink. Trish will work on producing a banner (that can be used again) and an e-mail invitation that can be passed on to others. The committee is requesting door prizes, let them know if you're willing to donate something. John Karle (I think) offered to help follow up with people who attended event and aren't members.

Elissa Sangali, from Local First, introduced her organization. Buying locally is good for the local economy. Local First is an advocacy organization that is made up of locally owned, privately held, headquartered in West Michigan businesses. [www.localfirst.com](http://www.localfirst.com) for more information.

A sign up list for future meeting hosting and sponsoring (refreshments) was passed around.

Police Report- Tom and Ryan reported that lately over 20 nighttime B&E's have occurred in area businesses. The suspect vehicle was seen at the Beltline and 3 Mile-dark truck w/dark topper, with 2 white males, in their 40's (5'7" and 5'11"). Last month call reports summarized.

John Knoppers presented his employer, United Bank. United Bank is a locally owned, full service bank. Their mission is to be a successful independent provider of financial services and be part of the community.

October is membership month. Talk to your business neighbors and invite them to our October meeting.

Levi (from Integrated) asked if we would like him to schedule another electronics recycling day. Members asked if one could be scheduled this fall and another in the spring.

Next meeting is October 11, 8 AM, at Grand Rapids Township Offices.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Albro, Secretary