



Meeting Minutes- March 26, 2009

- Meeting started: 7:15 am
- Members in attendance: 13
[Andrew, Barbieri, Bramucci, Corigliano, Gilligan, Krainson, Lincoln, McGill, Moran, Ramsey, Ripley, Saffer, Zawrotny]
- Guests: none
- Introductions: none
- Speaker: Mary Ripley- speaking about her business- Design Solutions
- Referrals: 5
- Testimonials: 5

Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 am by Bill Gilligan.
2. 60 second round table commercials.
3. Mary Ripley provided the group with a 10 minute presentation (+ followup questions) about her business- Design Solutions. Here is a link to her business [webpage](#).
Below are some highlights:
 - Mary helps people redesign existing and new living spaces. She also provides guidance on selection of resources and materials including “green”.
 - Architectural training which allows her to assist the homeowner with their project. Experience with handicapped clients is a big plus with people looking to revamp their living space due to a health issue such as difficulties climbing stairs or confinement to a wheelchair.
 - Project examples showing her expertise were shared with the group.
4. This week’s 10 minute Tech Corner included the following items:
 - Larry Krainson of Computer Care mentioned that there is a new virus or worm called Conficker that is expected to cause significant worldwide problems. According to Larry, many of the standard anti-virus software programs are not able to detect it. Here is a [link](#) to the USA Today article about this worm.
5. EBBE group bylaws will be posted on the blog. Laura Barbieri Sydney Hirsch will provide Laura Barbieri with a hardcopy of the minutes who volunteered to type them.
6. Laura Barbieri delivered the new EBBE brochures and copies were distributed to members.

7. Our next “after 5” event will be held on March 31 at Bertucci’s in Longmeadow. Members are encouraged to attend, bring a prospective member and/or their spouses. Prospective members are treated to a drink and dinner by the members who is reimbursed later by EBBE. For additional information on this next “after 5” event, see the EBBE blog at ebbegroup.wordpress.com.

Bill Gilligan will schedule the next monthly lunch and send email to members.

8. There will no 60 second commercials or speaker at our next meeting on April 2. Instead, there will be a round table discussion on referrals. Bill Gilligan suggested that group members consider the following questions prior to the next meeting:
 - What do you want from your participation in the group?
 - What type of referrals? Not just member-to-member referrals
 - What do you do to obtain referrals- week to week?
 - What other activities should be used to gain more referrals for group members? Newsletter? Advertising on Craig’s List? Email signatures?

Members should bring any ideas that they have to this roundtable discussion

9. Updated list of scheduled speakers:
 - Round Table- April 2
 - Sandy Saffer- April 9
10. EBBE membership dues (\$125) are due by the end of March.
11. Next EBBE meeting is April 2 at 7:15 am.

Submitted by Jim Moran, 3/29/09