



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: David Johnson, Bob King, Gary Zimmerman, Dana Kinde, Connie Tillman

Members absent: David Langseth, Dave Schulte, Larry Anderson, Kris Genck

Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Lynn Moe, Randy Chumley

1. Call to Order

- a. The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by President David Johnson at 11:01 a.m., January 21, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. November meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Community Relations Committee
 1. Paul Neubauer of St. Francis High School addressed the board about the Community Relations Committee that was formed to address diversity issues in the community.
 2. The group seeks to create a culturally diverse, welcoming community, and he asks for the Chamber's help in doing that.
 3. Dana is one of the 30 members of the committee, and she will report on the group's progress.
- b. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. December/January Chamber bills due include stamps, signs for Lighting of the Park, lighting supplies, cell phone, Alicia's service rep annual payment and January Courier expo ad.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$4,168.52, and money market of \$10,038.77, for a total balance of \$14,207.29.
 3. Invoices for 2009 Chamber dues have been printed and will be handed/mailed out.
 4. The board approved the go-ahead to pay monthly bills such as the cell phone and eNews.
 5. The budget committee of Dana, Lynn, Connie and David will go over how to spend Chamber funds and oversee financial matters.
- c. Lighting of the Park event report by David and Gary
 1. Unfortunately the lights were vandalized, but Gary was able to fix some of them and purchase some new ones before the event. It was cold and there was some confusion by participants regarding when to be where.
 2. Despite this, more than 100 people attended, and it was nice to use the Bridge Street Coffee Box as a warming house. Thanks to Bob King for the cookies.
 3. Pete Karpe had mentioned wanting to be involved and/or taking over the event. The board decided to keep doing the event ourselves, but any help would be welcomed.
 4. The holiday coloring contest went well, however, there were few entrants to the residential lighting contest.

4. Old Business

- a. Resource Guide Update
 1. Response for display advertising has been slow. More than 50 free listing forms were returned.
 2. Corey of the Frugal Shopper will continue to follow up with people about advertising.
 3. Regardless of how many advertisers, the board would like to go ahead and get the guide out in time for the business expo.

4. Chamber funds could be used to help pick up the cost if necessary.
- b. City Council Update
 1. A recall election for Councilmember Schaffer was held December 16 and Mr. Schaffer was not recalled. He will serve out the remainder of his term.
- c. Snowmobiling in St. Francis
 1. Gary and David J. had met with city council members and then presented at the January 20 city council meeting their desire to see a snowmobile trail along Highway 47.
 2. Council feedback was mostly positive they will look into amending the ordinance.
- d. Business Expo Update
 1. Registration forms/brochures have been printed and will be mailed today to Chamber members and other area businesses. About ten people had signed up online to receive information. Food vendors are already lined up.
 2. 50 booths will fit in the gym, overflow will be in the commons. Connie will look into buying/renting tarps to cover the entire gym.
 3. Volunteers will be needed for that day, in addition to the ambassadors.
- e. Board matters—Lynn Moe's replacement of David Langseth
 1. Lynn of Village Bank would be willing to replace David Langseth on the board, as he is stepping down. There are questions about if more than one person can be on the board at the same time from the same business. The hope would be for Lynn to replace Dana as the treasurer once her term is up in April.
 2. David asked that the board review the bylaws on the matter and come to the next meeting with suggestions on this topic, as well as how appointing an interim board member would work.
 3. David, Gary, Bob and Dana will serve on the election committee. The process starts next month. Alicia will get the nomination forms ready and put something in eNews.

5. New Business

- a. Ribbon Cutting Equipment
 1. The City was recently looking for ribbon cutting scissors for its water treatment plant open house. They ended up borrowing scissors from the Anoka Chamber.
 2. Smith Iron Works said they could make big scissors for about \$200, about the same price and they are online. Alicia will look into this.
 3. This would all be part of the welcoming committee, which the board has talked about.
- b. PDC Pages
 1. David talked to the organization that publishes a yellow pages type directory. They have not in the past included us, but David and Alicia gave them our information, so this time we get a free listing.
- c. Event Ideas
 1. Amy arranged a bowling event for February 21 at Patriot Lanes. The board agreed it should be a family event, but as the postcard now reads, guests, is fine.
 2. The next event might be a business card exchange lunch. The board discussed perhaps having some type of business card display to bring to events.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative