



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 20, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by president Amy Lazere at 11:02 a.m., February 20, at the St. Francis Community Center.

Members present: Connie Tillman, Amy Lazere, Gary Zimmerman, Dana Kinde, Kris Genck,
Bob King, Jeff Conner

Members absent: Lori Gerhardson, Dave Schulte

Others present: Amber Mengelkoch, Alicia Loehlein, Tom Larson

1. Call to Order

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. January meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. January Chamber bills due include printing costs for brochures and postcards, and postage costs.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$2,226.28; golf account balance of \$5,020.32; and dinner account balance \$1,817.33; for total deposits of \$9,063.93.
 3. Donation Requests
 - a. The board approved donations to the St. Francis Ambassadors for \$500, St. Francis High School for scholarships for \$1,500; and Pioneer Days for \$1,000.

4. Old Business

- a. Business Expo Update
 1. The latest list has 34 booths.
 2. Five new members have joined.
 3. A seminar is planned for February 27.
 4. Connie said right now to just continue to encourage others to sign up.
- b. Area Guide/Mailers
 1. Connie has been researching the publication of an advertising-supported area guide.
 2. The board discussed offering member discounts and how to distribute the guide.
 3. Connie will collect more bids.

- c. 2008 Budget
 - 1. The budget committee met and went over the budget. Dana presented a sheet of 2007 income and expenses.
 - 2. For 2007, total income was \$15,432; expenses were \$25,154, plus the monument fees of \$11,800.
 - d. Interest for Chamber balance
 - 1. Amy looked into the Chamber earning interest on its balance.
 - 2. Amy and Dana will meet to discuss the Chamber balance needing a tax return if it is more than \$25,000 and they will report back at the March meeting.
 - e. Election Committee
 - 1. The election committee will be Larry Anderson, Lori, Dana and Gary.
 - 2. Alicia will look up in the bylaws for the election date timeline.
 - f. Snowmobiling in St. Francis
 - 1. Gary spoke to city council regarding the city's snowmobile ordinance and the "unwelcoming" signs at the city entrances.
 - 2. He said the council did agree to re-do the signs, but was not very receptive to a change of the ordinance.
 - 3. The board agreed to keep trying and to come back to the city with a plan.
- 5. New Business**
- a. St. Francis City Council Member Concern
 - 1. Amy, Dana and Gary voiced concerns over city council member LeRoy Shaffer and his conduct as a public official and ambassador. She shared the newspaper articles that outline his actions that include bizarre/inappropriate behavior and spreading misinformation around town.
 - 2. Amy said a recall process would involve 5 individuals gathering 750 signatures.
 - 3. Tom Larson also addressed his frustration with the negativity against the school district.
 - 4. The city and school issues are creating a negative city image.
 - 5. The board discussed the Chamber taking the lead in working to promote a positive image of the area.
 - b. Future Event Planning
 - 1. Amy will look into lining up more monthly speakers.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, March 19 at the St. Francis Community Center.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative