



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 18, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: David Johnson, Larry Anderson, Gary Zimmerman, Dana Kinde, Connie Tillman

Members absent: Dave Schulte, Kris Genck, Bob King

Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Lynn Moe, Kerby Scherer

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., February 18, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. January meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. February Chamber bills due include printing expo registration forms, totes for holiday items, printing of bowling postcard and ad in The Courier.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$2,426.42, and money market of \$10,043.72, for a total balance of \$12,470.14.
 3. 2009 Chamber due invoices were mailed out. 14 members still owe dues for 2008. We will see if they respond to the invoices just sent out, then call them.
 4. The board discussed changing the fiscal year to the calendar year, instead of the May-April as it is now. It will be easier to compile and submit things in January, a less-busy time for the Chamber. It will cost \$250 to change. This will be voted upon at the March meeting.
 5. The board approved later via email continuing scholarships to three St. Francis High School students, \$500 each, totaling \$1,500.
 6. The board discussed clarifying the member due categories such as home-based business. The board agreed to eliminate the categories and make all dues \$150 for all members starting in 2010. This rate is still much less than neighboring Chambers.

4. Old Business

- a. Resource Guide Update
 1. Response for display advertising continues to be slow. More than 50 free listing forms were returned.
 2. After the board meeting Corey Nelson of the Frugal Shopper was on hand. He said the document will be 16 pages, with 4-5 pages of display advertising.
 3. Alicia will work to compile the list of 200 businesses, bolding Chamber members and verifying information.
- b. Business Expo Update
 1. Connie recently found out the gym does not need covered with a tarp. The gym can hold up to 80 booths and food vendors will be in the commons.
 2. Connie will look into bags with the Chamber logo to be handed out at the expo. The board told her to get \$1,000 worth with generic Chamber information, so they can be used for other events.
 3. Politicians have been interested in having a booth at the expo. The board agreed they should be let in, but given low priority.

- c. Board matters—elections
 - 1. A few members have been talked into being nominated to the board of directors. Lynn will fill David Langseth's spot in May, therefore only the three expiring members need replaced. The board approved Lynn's appointment.
 - 2. Larry asked the board to think about what the Chamber's goals are, what does the Chamber offer? Discussion included that the Chamber exists to promote business, educate, enhance community relations, and grow the city. The question is how to do that.

5. New Business

- a. 2009 Golf Tournament
 - 1. Kerby had already heard from Dan Lockwood at The Refuge regarding the Chamber's annual golf tournament.
 - 2. The board discussed continuing the rotation between The Ponds and Refuge versus just going with the lowest rate.
 - 3. Kerby will meet with Dan and look at dates and times in July or August with perhaps a breakfast, so as to not take up the whole day.
- b. Event Ideas
 - 1. The Bowling Bash at Patriot Lanes is February 21.
 - 2. An event with city managers speaking on economic development was discussed as a possibility in March, however, things are busy with the expo.
- c. Spending Chamber Funds
 - 1. The board discussed how to spend Chamber funds including ideas such as free events, subsidize the Chamber expo discount at a higher rate, city electronic message board, new resident welcome packet.
 - 2. Alicia is working on a member suggestion for and event approval form.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:25 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative