



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce  
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## Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting Wednesday, March 21, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by President Tom Larson at 11:08 a.m., March 21, 2007, at Mansetti's Pizza in St. Francis.

Members present: Tom Larson, Dana Kinde, Connie Tillman, Gail Mengelkoch, Dave Schulte, Lori Gerhardson, and Stacy Ridge

Members absent: Amy Lazere and Brian Opp

Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Barb Held, Mike Conner, Jeff Conner

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. February meeting minutes were approved.
- b. Not all board members have been receiving the minutes. Tom and Alicia will work to verify email addresses.

### 3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
  1. February Chamber bills due include St. Francis Flowers for flowers for the Meet the Candidates event, and ISD 15 for postage, for total expenses of \$73.80.
  2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$9,741.73; golf account balance of \$5,798.34; and dinner account balance \$7,092.18; for total deposits of \$22,632.25. The \$7,000 for the welcome sign is not included in these numbers.
- b. Membership Report by Alicia Loehlein
  1. There are approximately 73 Chamber members, with two joining at the March 7 Chamber event. We are still working toward the goal of 100 members.
- c. Nominations for Board Election
  1. Two nominations were returned. Two more are needed. Dana will contact Barry Mingo and Kerby Scherer to see if they would be interested. Guest Jeff Conner said he would be interested. Alicia will get him a nomination form.
  2. The names are to be collected by Friday (March 23) and Alicia will get the ballot made up and mailed March 26, to be returned by April 11.

### 4. Old Business

- a. City Welcome Sign Update
  1. Stacy reported that the stone is completed, and Third Dimension will be working on the engraving.
  2. Tom reported problems with the City of Oak Grove regarding the placement of the sign so far into their city.

3. Gail suggested allowing Oak Grove put their name on the back of our sign.
  4. Tom will fill out the permit for Oak Grove.
  - b. Speed Networking Event, March 7
    1. The event went well. The board discussed having such an event twice a year. Perhaps next in September and have the event be more organized.
  - c. Chamber page in The Courier
    1. Alicia presented the board with the proof of the Chamber-sponsored page to appear in the April Courier.
  - d. Annual Chamber Meeting, April 18, The Ponds
    1. The closed board meeting to canvass the election results will be held at 10 a.m., followed by the public annual meeting at 11 a.m., where the Chamber's events and yearly activities will be presented.
  - e. Sunrise Business Breakfast, April 25, Papa's Cafe
    1. Tom is still working to get a speaker. The day is also Administrative Professional's Day. Guest Barb Held suggested city attorney Scott Lepak, who is familiar with human resources issues.
- 5. New Business**
- a. Weekly email to members
    1. Amy has suggested sending out a weekly email to members, similar to what other Chambers in the area do. Alicia already sends out reminders about upcoming events and will continue to do that.
  - b. Chamber credit card
    1. ISD 15 has had concerns with the Chamber use of the Community Education card, so Dana brought information regarding obtaining a Chamber card. She will fill out the application for a card with a \$300 limit, to be kept at The Courier office.
  - c. Anoka County Youth First
    1. Tom has met with this group wishing to provide recreation activities in St. Francis and East Bethel. The Chamber will support the group. They have not yet asked for financial support.
  - d. Business Expo
    1. Connie has collected dates and locations of upcoming area business expos. She passed out the information and encouraged board members to attend and report back.
    2. Connie and Alicia have talked about putting out a survey to members to see if and when they would be interested in a business expo. Alicia will work on this.
  - e. St. Francis Ambassadors
    1. Gail presented about the group's needs and the board agreed to help sponsor the program with a \$250 contribution.
    2. Gail will gather information about what the Ambassadors would need for a float.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board will be held Wednesday, April 18 at The Ponds. Closed board meeting at 10 a.m., annual meeting at 11 a.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative.