



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by president Amy Lazere at 11:05 a.m., March 19, at the St. Francis Community Center.

Members present: Connie Tillman, Amy Lazere, Gary Zimmerman, Dana Kinde, Lori Gerhardson, and Dave Schulte

Members absent: Kris Genck, Bob King

Others present: David Johnson, Aaron Burquest, Mary Dresch, Alicia Loehlein

1. Call to Order

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. February meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. January Chamber bills due include printing and advertising costs.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$8,746.52; golf account balance of \$5,020.32; and dinner account balance \$1,817.33; for total deposits of \$15,584.17.
 3. Donation Request
 - a. The board denied a donation request by Brian Opp of Kids Day America based on the Chamber guidelines that donations must benefit Chamber business.
 4. The board approved Janice Audette of The Courier to receive \$10 for each member referral. Dana will send her an \$80 gift card.

4. Old Business

- a. Business Expo Update
 1. The latest vendor list has 45 booths with room for four more.
 2. A dozen new members have joined through the expo.
 3. Amy will look into getting a banner with the Chamber name and logo.
 4. Alicia will gather event photos to display at the Chamber table.
- b. Area Guide/Mailers
 1. Karen of ECM/Isanti County News presented options from her company. They have created community guides for other chambers, with full-page advertising ranging from \$600-\$800. She would need 60 days to look around the area and see how interested businesses are. They would distribute the product as an insert in the Scotsman.

2. Connie met with Prime Advertising which does many area guides to the south. They would direct mail the guide. They will be invited to present at next month's meeting.
- c. Chamber insurance
 1. Mary Dresch of American Family Insurance was on hand to update the Chamber's liability policy. The current policy is \$1,000,000, for an approximate \$1,000 yearly premium.
 2. She needed an updated list of Chamber events and a board signature. Amy will sign.
 3. Mary is waiting to hear back from the insurer about the expo and how/if that affects the policy.
- d. Interest for Chamber balance
 1. Amy and Dana met and will put the balance into a money market account that earns interest.
 2. Dana also looked into the Chamber filing a tax return, as required for organizations whose income is more than \$25,000, which the Chamber is. Member Nichols CPA can do it for \$250.
- e. Board Nominations
 1. Jeff Conner has resigned his board seat. With Jeff's resignation, there are now three open positions.
 2. Four nominations have been received: David Johnson, Aaron Burquest, Larry Anderson and Dave Langseth. Langseth is not a Chamber member. Dana will contact him about joining.
 2. Alicia will put together the ballot. They will need returned by April 10.
- f. St. Francis City Council Member Concern
 1. Amy and Dana have been attending board meetings.
 2. Amy is glad to see community members stepping in to combat the negative publicity.
 3. A recall is being discussed.

5. **New Business**

- a. Future Events
 1. The annual meeting will be held Wednesday, April 16, 11 a.m., at The Ponds, with a free lunch.
 2. The April meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 11 a.m., St. Francis Community Center.
 3. The Village Bank golf tournament is May 20. The Chamber will sponsor a hole.
 4. The monthly lunch is scheduled for April 29, with mortgages as the topic.
 5. Amy is working to get Connexus as the May speaker.
 6. The Chamber golf tournament has tentatively been scheduled for June 24.

- b. Jeff Conner Resignation
 - 1. Alicia received an email from Board Member Jeff Conner. He has chosen to resign. His position will be filled this election.

- c. Chamber Web Site
 - 1. Alicia has had issues with the iPower, the Chamber's web host and its web mail provider.
 - 2. The board agreed to give her the go-ahead to transition to a new company.

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

The next regular meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will be held **Tuesday, April 15**, 11 a.m., at the St. Francis Community Center.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative