



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by vice president Connie Tillman at 11:03 a.m., May 16, 2007, at Hong Kong Delight in St. Francis.

Members present: Dana Kinde, Connie Tillman, Dave Schulte, Lori Gerhardson, Amy Lazere, Gary Zimmerman, Jeff Conner, Kris Genck and Bob King

Members absent: none

Others present: Dana Nagel, Annette Clark, Barb Held, Brian Opp, Alicia Loehlein

1. Call to Order

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. April meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Introduction of new board members
- b. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde
 1. March Chamber bills due include: Papa's Café for the Sunrise Breakfast, \$200.12; USPS annual box charge, \$38.00; The Courier for name tags and envelopes, \$142.32.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$516.93; golf account balance of \$5,798.34; and dinner account balance \$7,092.18; for total deposits of \$13,407.45. This balance does not include the \$6300 for the second city welcome sign, which Dana will pay out of the dinner account.
- c. Election of officers for 2007-08
 1. Nominations were taken for the positions of president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.
 2. For treasurer, Dana nominated herself.
 3. For president, Connie, Lori and Amy were nominated by others. Amy said she would be interested.
 4. For vice president, Lori expressed interest.
 5. For secretary, Connie was nominated.
 6. The board approved the following new officers: President Amy Lazere, Vice President Lori Gerhardson, Treasurer Dana Kinde and Secretary Connie Tillman.
- d. Reaffirm Alicia's position as Service Representative
 1. The board agreed to continue Alicia's services for 2007-08 for \$2574. Dana will pay ISD 15 in June.

4. Old Business

- a. City welcome sign update

1. The two welcome signs, along Highway 47 and County Road 9, have been completed and are installed. Alicia will take some photos for The Courier.
2. Connie has spoken with the City of St. Francis regarding the business district sign. It has been changed to have two arrows pointing toward the two city business areas.
- b. 2007 Chamber events
 1. The board went through the list of 2007 events and assigned committees and chairpersons.
 2. St. Francis Pioneer Days, June 8-10 – Amy will chair. Alicia will send out a letter and email asking for items for the Chamber wheel.
 3. National Night Out, August 7 – Dana will chair the event.
 4. Chamber Golf Tournament, August 14 – Jeff and Kerby will chair.
 5. Chamber Annual Dinner, October 12 – Lori will chair, Kris will assist.
 6. Lighting of the Park, December 1 – Connie will chair.
- c. Business survey results
 1. Alicia had emailed the board the results of the business expo/Chamber survey. 18 were returned, all expressed interest in an expo.
 2. The board began discussing details of an expo such as when, where, who to invite.
 3. Connie will chair the expo committee, with Jeff's assistance.
 4. The board discussed other survey findings, such future events and how to get a list of new residents to the area.
 5. Jeff and other members agreed that turnout has been disappointing at many events. The goal is to find a way to get more people involved.
 6. The first annual Chamber meeting was a huge success because it was more mingling and games, rather than simply trying to raise money.
 7. A lunch for members catered by Unique Dining Experiences was discussed. Jeff will talk to Mike and more will be discussed at the June meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Anoka County Community Connections presentation
 1. Annette Clark and Dana Nagel of Anoka County spoke about their summer program partnership with ISD 15. The program provides activities for K-5 youth during the summer.
 2. They requested the Chamber donate money toward the activity costs.
- b. St. Francis High School Marching Band
 1. The band has requested monetary support for its upcoming trip.
 2. The board discussed what to do about the many requests for donations we receive. Should Chamber funds go only toward Chamber interests, or community-wide interests? Where do you draw the line?
 3. Alicia and Amy will work to amend the bylaws to come up with consistent criteria for donation requests. Donations should fall in line with the mission of the Chamber – help networking for businesses and promote the community.
 4. Alicia will email requests to Chamber members and they can chose to donate to the causes privately, instead of using Chamber funds.

5. The board decided the Anoka County and band requests did not fall into the guidelines.
- c. Village Bank Golf Tournament hold sponsorship
 1. The Chamber could sponsor a hole at the tournament for \$225, the money going toward Anoka County food shelves. It is also a chance to promote the Chamber.
 2. The board agreed to sponsor the hole and Jeff and Amy will sit at the hole.
 3. Alicia will get new brochures and make a poster of Chamber members.

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, June 20 at Papa's Café, 11 a.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative.