



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Janice Audette, Gary Zimmerman, Kris Genck, Brian Opp, Kerby Scherer, David Johnson, and Larry Anderson
Members absent: Bob King, Lynn Moe
Others present: Alicia Loehlein

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 11:05 a.m., June 17, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. May meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Kerby Scherer
 1. June Chamber bills due include: Village Bank golf tournament hole sponsorship, cell phone, Pioneer Days donation, PO Box increase, insurance, expo advertising.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$4,534.11, and money market of \$10,060.93.
- b. Pioneer Days Report
 1. The celebration went well and the Chamber spinning wheel was a big hit. There were lines to spin and prizes were used up.
 2. Future changes for improvement may be to have more prizes and if there are more than 24 businesses with prizes, rotate them. Also keep the prizes kid-focused and emphasize that it is free to spin the wheel.

4. Old Business

- a. 2009 Golf Tournament Update
 1. Alicia has sent Kerby the brochure. There are a few minor changes.
 2. Kris and David will help collect gifts and prizes.
- b. Review Bylaws
 1. Alicia re-worded the bylaws to reflect the new fiscal year change, which is the calendar year, excluding December events. The board also discussed combining the annual dinner and annual meeting into one event held in January.
 2. Alicia has also added a section about having a quorum at meetings in order to conduct business.
 3. The board discussed the section on disbursements. \$500 or more will need board approval.
 4. All amendments to the bylaws were approved.
- c. Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
 1. The deadline for the grants has passed so joining the MN Chamber will be put on hold.
- d. Audio/Video equipment for St. Francis meetings
 1. David has looked into this and both the school district and city would be interested in recording meetings that could be archived on the web or streamed live.
 2. David said paying for half of the equipment fits the Chamber mission of benefitting the community as a whole by keeping the community informed and educated.
 3. The question is whether to buy or lease the equipment and what kind of equipment to get.
- e. Chamber address to City Council

1. David, on behalf of the Chamber, spoke to the city council regarding the actions of Mr. Schaffer. He asked Schaffer to act appropriately or step down as he is ruining the reputation of the town and bringing negative attention to the city, and forcing business owners to defend themselves about their location.
2. David said no follow up is intended. He wanted to speak his piece and has done so.

5. New Business

- a. Monthly Networking Ideas
 1. David would like to have every board member organize an event. Larry and Brian both have ideas with a business coach and county commissioner. One will be scheduled for September.
- b. Chamber discounts
 1. David knows of a business in town that joined the Anoka Chamber just to get a discount on insurance through their member discount benefit, thus driving business out of town.
 2. While not every business can offer a discount, it would be a benefit to Chamber members. Promotions could be listed in the eNews and on the web site.
- c. Membership Plaque
 1. Membership plaques were stopped being given to new members and replaced with window stickers. David likes the plaque and would like to give members an option.
- d. How to spend Chamber funds
 1. In addition to the audio/video equipment, funds could be used for more city entrance signs, or more to the Ambassadors for all their help.

6. Other

- a. The Chamber approved purchasing an ad in the school calendar for \$400.
- b. The City Council had its first reading for the snowmobile trail ordinance. Anoka accommodates snowmobilers and hopefully St. Francis can do the same. Gary thinks because of a rule if the council does nothing after a reading, it automatically goes into effect.

The regular monthly meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative