



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by president Amy Lazere at 11:04 a.m., July 18, 2007, at Tasty Pizza in St. Francis.

Members present: Dana Kinde, Connie Tillman, Dave Schulte, Lori Gerhardson, Amy Lazere, Gary Zimmerman, Jeff Conner, Jessica Kast (for Kris) and Bob King

Members absent: Jeff Conner

Others present: Tammy Sakry, Matt Hysten, Kerby Scherer, Alicia Loehlein

1. Call to Order

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. June meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde

1. June Chamber bills due include: down payment on golf tournament to The Refuge: \$519.00; annual storage charge to Mau's Corner: \$240.00; postage to ISD 15: \$221.40; St. Francis Post Office (Alicia) stamps: \$82.00.
2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$166.65; golf account balance of \$4,798.34; and dinner account balance \$592.18; for total deposits of \$5,557.17.

4. Old Business

- a. National Night Out, Tuesday, August 7
 1. The Chamber will once again serve root beer floats at the event in Community Park. The Chamber is in need of a new tent. Kerby will look into this and drop items off that evening.
- b. Golf Tournament, Tuesday, August 14
 1. Kerby so far has one team signed up to golf, and six hole sponsors. More usually sign up at the last minute.
 2. Kerby has been in contact with PSA Charities, an organization that assists with fundraisers. The group will provide silent auction items, with The Chamber getting a percentage of the proceeds.
 3. Regarding advertising for the event, the board decided to only advertise in The Courier, not the Shopper or Scotsman. Tammy mentioned the event can be put in the Union events calendar.
 4. Amy, Kerby and Dana will call those who participated last year.
- c. Business Expo Plans
 1. Connie has been speaking with an organization that will set up the event for \$45 per booth, plus flooring.

2. Connie has a meeting with Nancy Messerschmidt with ISD15 regarding the use of the middle school instead of the high school for the expo.
- d. Member Stickers
 1. Dana contacted Debbie Bray of Embroidery & Ink regarding Chamber stickers for members to place in their windows to replace the plaques.
 2. Dana presented samples which said "Proud member of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce" with the logo.
 3. The board agreed to go ahead and order 500 stickers, blue and white, at a cost of approximately 40 cents a piece.
- e. Donation Request Form and Bylaws
 1. Amy and Alicia worked on creating a donation request form and updating the bylaws to reflect the Chamber's stance on donations to organizations. The board suggested adding the blurb from the bylaws to the form, then approved the form and bylaws addition.
- f. Ideas for Chamber benefits, events and funds
 1. Connie suggested changing days and times so different members can attend. She also suggested brining in speakers to address business issues.
 2. The board discussed how to best spread the word of Chamber events: email, mail, then a follow-up phone call.
 3. Amy will contact S.C.O.R.E. to see if a speaker can attend an upcoming Chamber event in the fall.
 4. The board discussed how most other Chambers charge for events and agreed that a \$10 charge for a meal and event was reasonable.
 5. An annual wine tasting, which was previously a well-attended event, was discussed.
 6. Amy will contact Anoka County to see if we can acquire a list of new residents to send out welcome packets.
 7. Connie passed out a sample of the Zimmerman area guide, which is smaller and has more ads/coupons, etc. Alicia said *The Courier* office still has a lot left over from the last printing. We will have these and our other hand outs on hand at upcoming events to pass out.

5. New Business

- a. Jaycee's Cornfest, August 11, Community Park
 1. The Chamber has in the past provided free slushies at this community event and will again this year. The board agreed it would be good to also promote the Chamber, by displaying the posters and flyers, etc.
 2. Alicia will send out an email asking for volunteers.
- b. City of St. Francis Update
 1. Matt Hylen, St. Francis city administrator, spoke with the board regarding the future of the city, such the current water and sewer projects and upcoming developments.
 2. The city is working on its comprehensive plan and more input from businesses and residents would be useful.

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

The next regular meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, August 15 at Community Park.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative.