



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Dave Schulte, Connie Tillman, Kris Genck, David Johnson, Larry Anderson
Dana Kinde, Bob King
Members absent: Dave Langseth, Gary Zimmerman
Others present: Kerby Scherer

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., July 16, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. June meeting minutes were approved. Alicia will re-send them because of corrections made.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. June Chamber bills due include Amy Lazere for Pioneer Days items, T&S Trophies for the golf tournament, Kerby Scherer for golf tournament prizes, and The Ponds for golfing and food.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$10,020.57, money market balance of \$10,002.88, for total balances of \$20,023.45.
 3. Dana encourages the board to think about how to spend its money.
- b. Golf Tournament Report by Kerby Scherer
 1. Kerby reported this year's tournament was the biggest yet, with a profit of \$3,745.14.
 2. He wanted to thank the Ambassadors for their help during the entire day.
 3. Next year Kerby would like to think about having a breakfast and numbered door prizes, all in an effort to speed up the event so it doesn't take up the entire day.
- c. Christmas in July Report by David Johnson
 1. David and Dana attended the event co-hosted by the Chamber and held at Village Bank in Ramsey.
 2. David said it was a good event and Dana said it would be good to team up with other chambers in the future, due to our small size.

4. Old Business

- a. Area Guide/Mailers
 1. Connie has been in contact with Prime Advertising & Design of Rogers but they have been having personal issues and have not returned her calls.
 2. Cambridge has recently published a very nice area guide and Connie will follow up on that.
 3. The area guide committee met following today's board meeting.

- b. City Council Update
 - 1. There was confusion at the last city council meeting as the Chamber was on the agenda to speak, and members were in the audience, but no one spoke and or knew they were supposed to. There was no content and no preparation.
 - 2. Larry Anderson and Amy Lazere of two of the five who have written a letter asking to recall Councilmember Schaffer due to his inappropriate representation of the city. Larry plans to deliver the letter to city hall on 7/21, then they have 30 days to gather 730 signatures from citizens who would like a recall election.
 - 3. The board discussed how involved the Chamber should be in the process. General consensus was that while one may personally favor the recall, it may not be good for business to publically take sides. It is a question of promoting a healthy, positive business environment versus opening a Pandora's Box of backlash, given there is no physical evidence Mr. Schaffer has negatively affected the town.
 - 4. Writing a letter to the editor from the Board was discussed, again with hesitancy. David is going to draft something, perhaps just a sentence in his letter on the Chamber page in The Courier. He will have the Board look at it first.
- c. Chamber page in the August Courier
 - 1. Alicia presented a rough proof the Chamber page. It includes a letter from David, the member list with new members in their own box, and photos and articles from the golf tournament and new member showcase.

5. New Business

- a. Upcoming Event Planning
 - 1. The Chamber will again give out root beer floats at National Night Out, Tuesday, August 5. Dana and Kerby will handle that.
 - 2. Jaycees Cornfest is usually held in August, but no one knows if the Jaycees even still exists, to the Board elected to not participate in the event, regardless of whether or not it is held, as it really has no benefit to the Chamber to give away slushies to kids.
 - 3. The board discussed possible dates for the annual dinner: October 17 and 24. Alicia emailed the committee to get the ball rolling with that.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. New Member Showcase & Wine/Coffee Tasting – July 22
- b. Board Meeting – August 20

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative