



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 655, St. Francis, MN 55070

763-438-5163 • chamber@stfrancischamber.org • www.stfrancischamber.org

**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

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

Members absent: none

Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Stephanie Wallin

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 11:01 a.m., July 15, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. June meeting minutes were approved with Alicia to add Kerby's name to the members present list.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Kerby Scherer
 1. Kerby received a letter from the Chamber's CPA, Sara Sauer stating the Chamber's account balances are too large for a non-profit organization. If there is no plan for the money, it must be spent by December 31, 2009.
 2. Chamber bills from June 18-July 14 due include: Courier for printing and advertising, Refuge for networking event food, toys for Chamber wheel prizes, iContact email newsletter service, box of checks, stamps, envelopes, rent on storage shed, 2009 tax preparation to Sara Sauer, insurance and cell phone. Kerby has paid these bills with the understanding that any item more than \$500 would need board approval, as stated in the revised bylaws.
 3. Kerby received board approval 7/15 to purchase towels for the golf tournament which are estimated to cost \$500-600.
 4. Account balances: operating account balance of \$3,145.73, and money market of \$10,065.34.
 5. Kerby has worked to update the list of those who currently owe dues for the past year and beyond. He has emailed due notices to 26 members and so far received two payments.
 6. David will call those members who owe. Those who have not paid by July 30 will be removed from the member list.

4. Old Business

- a. 2009 Golf Tournament Update
 1. The brochures have been printed and Alicia mailed them to members and other area businesses 7/14.
 2. So far there are two hole sponsors.
 3. Items for the gift bag and door prizes need to be gathered.
- b. Audio/Video equipment for St. Francis meetings
 1. David is waiting to get in touch with the city. He has been working with Joe Haag of ISD 15.
 2. The idea may be to start low budget, using school equipment and student help and see how it evolves from there.
 3. The question is whether to buy or lease the equipment and what kind of equipment to get.
- c. Chamber discounts

1. David would like the Chamber to pursue offering member to member discounts, as other chambers such as Anoka do.
2. Alicia will create a web page listing the discounts and as for interest in the next email newsletter.

5. New Business

- a. Halloween Events idea
 1. Stephanie Wallin of North Anoka Plumbing was on hand to propose Halloween events such as business trick or treating, costume contest, and treasure hunt.
 2. After much discussion, the board likes the idea of interested members offering treats, etc., as a way to get the public to come to their door. Tentatively the event will be held the Friday before Halloween from 3-6. Stephanie will help with the planning of the event and will attend the next meeting.
 3. David also talked about a medallion hunt his hometown held in the winter with much success. He would like to have a Halloween medallion hunt. David will get some sample clues and rules.
- b. Networking Event ideas
 1. Brian is in touch with a business coach and will plan a lunch event for late August.
 2. Larry will look into getting county commissioner Dennis Berg for September.
- c. Spending Chamber funds
 1. David has looked into an electronic message board to display city and Chamber events. Cost, location and permits must be considered.
 2. The board agreed that the sign is a good idea and fits into the Chamber mission.
 3. David will speak with the city to get their input.

6. Other

- a. Night to Unite (formerly National Night Out) will be held August 4. Lynn is the committee chair and will organize the serving of root beer floats as has been done in the past for the event.
- b. The annual dinner is tentatively scheduled for January. Kris is the committee chair. She will be in contact with other committee members to begin planning. One idea was to give prizes to members who have paid their dues, which will be sent out in January.

The regular monthly meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:05 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative