



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 20, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by vice president Lori Gerhardson at 11:05 a.m., September 20, 2007, at the St. Francis Community Center.

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

Members absent: Dave Schulte

Others present: Barb Held, Alicia Loehlein

1. Call to Order

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. August meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. September Chamber bills due include: web hosting renewal, hole sponsor signs, golf tournament gifts, slushie machine rental, golf flyers, Chamber brochures, Courier ad, golf plaques and window stickers.
 2. Via email, the board approved Dana to pay Unique Dining Experiences for the pig roast, and money for advertising in The Courier.
 3. Account balances: operating account balance of \$99.33; golf account balance of \$7,566.20; and dinner account balance \$492.18; for total deposits of \$8,157.71.

4. Old Business

- a. Golf Tournament
 1. Kerby will be invited to next month's meeting to give the details.
- b. Business Expo Plans
 1. Alicia emailed Connie's expo survey, and so far she has Connie has only received responses from 8 members. Alicia will email it out again.
 2. Connie thinks the high school location would be better than the middle school due to costs of covering the middle school floor.
 3. Jeff suggested making the event most cost-effective for members. The board discussed if there would be more participation if events were free or low cost. Jeff asked, "What value does the Chamber provide to businesses?" Kris said it is best to review each event and go from there.
- c. Member window stickers
 1. Dana will have the 4" round white and blue stickers at the next meeting. She ordered 500 to replace the Chamber plaques.
- d. Ideas for Chamber benefits, events and funds

1. Amy will contact a woman from Anoka County regarding business recycling.
 2. Amy will call Billy's regarding a breakfast at their establishment in November.
 3. The board discussed the attitude of continuing to try to get members to attend events, given people can't attend every event. The value of each event will be different for each member.
- e. Pig Roast
1. The final count of paid tickets sold for the pig roast was 53, plus ones invoiced for and possible walk-ins.
 2. The board discussed if more people would have come if the event were free or if you didn't have to go to a business to get a ticket.
- f. Annual Dinner, Oct 12, The Ponds
1. The dinner committee decided on a western theme, in an attempt to make the event more fun and not as stuffy as in the past.
 2. The night will feature a guitar player, silent auction, meat raffle and bingo.
 3. Flyers and RSVP cards were handed out for board members to try to sell. Alicia will also mail the information to members and email as well and put on the web site.

5. New Business

- a. Chamber page in The Courier
1. The Chamber does not have many venues to get information out, but one way is The Courier. Board members are to come to the next meeting with ideas to put in an ad. Alicia will get pricing on a quarterly page.
- b. Lighting of the Park, Dec.1
1. The board discussed options for the event, such as pictures with Santa, or a coloring contest.
- c. Chamber co-host school board candidate debate
1. Alicia was in contact with Karen Davis of the St. Francis Women of Today regarding the two groups sponsoring a school board candidate debate. The board agreed it would be good to be involved.
 2. Dana will follow up with Karen.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, October 17, 2007, at The Oaks of Lake George.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, service representative.