



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, September 17, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Gary Zimmerman, David Johnson, Connie Tillman, Larry Anderson, Dave Schulte, Kris Genck, Bob King,
Members absent: Dana Kinde, David Langseth
Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Tom Larson, Amy Lazere, Kathy Downey

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 11:08 a.m., September 17, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. August meeting minutes were approved. We are still looking in to the cost of the event at the Ponds.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved.
 1. August Chamber bills due include Alicia for office supplies, Courier for printing, ISD 15 for postage, and Michael Nichols CPA for tax return.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$5,467.68, and money market of \$10,015.21, for a total balance of \$15,482.89.

4. Old Business

- a. Area Guide/Mailers
 1. The committee is still working to narrow down a choice.
- b. City Council Update
 1. The group collecting signatures calling for councilmember Schaffer's recall had enough signatures, but a snafu with voter registration resulted in some not counting toward the total. The group has a few days to collect more needed signatures.
 2. The deadline to appear on the November ballot has been missed, so this will require a special election.
- c. Annual Dinner Update
 1. The committee has been promoting the event with flyers around town. A DJ has also been added. Auction items are needed. Alicia will put this in the next enewsletter. The Ambassadors will help with the evening. Amy's goal is 150 people.
- d. Email Newsletter Update
 1. Alicia has begun the distribution of the email newsletter. Feedback from the board was positive. A few business profiles have been received. eNews will continue to be sent out weekly as long as there is enough information.

5. New Business

- a. Member to Member Discounts
 1. The board discussed offering member to member discounts. Perhaps a member card could be created for members to present at other member businesses. David J. will look into this further. Alicia will create an email survey asking about interest in this.

- b. ISD 15 Levy Information
 - 1. Tom Larson of ISD 15 presented a video and information about ISD 15. The upcoming levy vote is needed to maintain current programs.
- c. Calendar Advertising Opportunity
 - 1. Amy presented information on a community calendar being created from the artwork of Tim Holen's mother. An informational meeting about advertising opportunities for this calendar will be held Sept. 30, 3 p.m. at the credit union.
- d. 2009 Business Expo
 - 1. The 2009 expo may be held in the high school gym, with the floor covered. Dates may be mid-April.
- e. Event Ideas
 - 1. Board member suggestions included open bowling and a chili cook-off.
 - 2. The board discussed breakfast and evening event times.
- f. Holiday Events
 - 1. Lori is unable to chair the holiday committee this year.
 - 2. Gary will take over her duties. Connie made a list of all the things they did last year. Alicia will email Gary the contact information for the Jaycees as we may be able to collaborate with them.
- g. Snowmobiling
 - 1. Gary will approach the city council, mayor and city administrator to gauge their views before going further with the plan to overturn the city's snowmobiling ban. David J. will help Gary gauge business interest. Alicia will put the topic in the next eNews.
- h. How to Spend Chamber Funds
 - 1. Connie came up with several ideas on how to spend Chamber funds including: welcome bag for new residents, drawing at networking events and promo items when members renew.
 - 2. Kris offered to donate a prize for the 9/18 networking event.

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

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative