



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 20, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: David Johnson, Connie Tillman, Larry Anderson, Kris Genck, Bob King

Members absent: Dana Kinde, David Langseth Gary Zimmerman, Dave Schulte

Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Janice Audette, Amy Lazere

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 11:04 a.m., October 15, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

- a. September meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report by Dana Kinde was approved in her absence.
 1. August Chamber bills due include postage, email newsletter service, advertising, printing, dinner items, annual dinner location rental, annual dinner DJ.
 2. Account balances: operating account balance of \$4,619.53, and money market of \$10,021.80, for a total balance of \$14,641.33.
- b. Annual Dinner Report by Amy Lazere.
 1. 88 people attended the October 3 annual dinner.
 2. Net profit will exceed \$1,500 once all attendees have paid.
 3. Income is not as high as previous years and there were fewer donations, but turnout was better than the last few years.

4. Old Business

- a. Area Guide/Mailers
 1. The committee has heard presentations from two different organizations has recommends Corey Nelson with Frugal Shopper in Oak Grove.
 2. The piece will be a smaller size, full color, with reasonable ad rates. It will be bulk mailed hopefully around January. The only cost to the Chamber is distribution.
 3. Chamber members will receive an advertising discount.
- b. City Council Update
 1. A recall election for Councilmember Schaffer will be held December 13.
 2. Meanwhile, Mr. Schaffer has submitted an injunction against the city and recall group.
- c. Holiday Events
 1. Chairman Gary had recommended not having a coloring or lighting contest, but the board agreed there was no negative to having the contests.
 2. The Lighting of the Park events will be the same as last year, with events at County Market beginning in the afternoon, with events at Woodbury Park and the lighting of the gazebo at dusk. Connie and Kris will assist with planning.
- d. Snowmobiling in St. Francis
 1. David J. reported that progress is being made regarding the snowmobile ban in St. Francis. A map has been created that brings the trail along Highway 47.

5. New Business

- a. Meet the Candidates, October 23
 1. Dana, David J. and Alicia have planned a Meet the Candidates event for St. Francis city council and mayoral candidates.
 2. David will moderate the event and several board members will be on hand as well.
- b. Survey Results
 1. Alicia used the new email newsletter service to create a survey covering a broad range of topics including member feedback on event and speaker ideas.
 2. The board would like to see more response, at meeting time only 13 people had responded.
 3. Alicia will send out more reminders to complete the survey. The board mainly wants to know why people do not attend events so they can plan accordingly to attract new and more members to events.
- c. Member to Member Discounts
 1. Survey results regarding if members would be a part of a member to member discount program were mixed. David J. said it would be a voluntary program and an added Chamber benefit and was worth a try.
 2. David J. is going to look more into what the Anoka Chamber does.
- d. 2009 Business Expo
 1. The committee of 10 has begun planning the event and has chosen the date of the 2009 Business & Community Expo has been set for April 25 in the high school gym.
 2. The committee is looking into food vendors in the commons.
- e. Treasurer
 1. David J. and Dana have discussed having a treasurer's assistant, to represent Dana when she cannot attend, and take her place once her six years are up.
 2. The board agreed it would be best for the person to be from Village Bank, since that is where our accounts are set up.
- f. Event Ideas
 1. David J. will look into getting Bob Hoenie from the State to come speak about resources for business.
 2. David will try to arrange a breakfast in mid-November.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:08 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative