



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, November 18, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Janice Audette, Larry Anderson, Gary Zimmerman, David Johnson, Lynn Moe, Kris Genck, Kerby Scherer, Jeff Kearny (for Bob King)
Members absent: Brian Opp
Others present: Alicia Loehlein, Spencer and George of Signs by RSG, Joe of Premier Specialties, Sandy Morgan, Connie Tillman, Don Hiller

1. Call to Order

1. 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., November 18, at the St. Francis Community Center.

2. Previous Month's Minutes

1. October meeting minutes were approved.

3. Reports

1. Treasurer's Report by Kerby Scherer was approved.
 - a. Account balances: operating account balance of \$392.38, and money market of \$9,599.03.
 - b. Current membership sits at 67.
 - c. Alicia has set up a PayPal account to accept online payments. She would like a couple volunteers to pay dues online before making it available to all members.
2. Trick or Treat event recap
 - a. 15 businesses participated in the Business to Business Trick or Treat and 15-20 groups came to each business. Feedback was positive.
3. Meet the Candidates
 - a. The event went well and was attended by about 30 community members.
4. Finance Committee will meet to look at the Chamber's budget.
5. Web site, eNews reports
 - a. Alicia presented charts showing the web site traffic and eNews opens. About 450 unique visitors go to the web site and 40 percent of subscribers open the eNews.

4. Old Business

1. Holiday Events
 - a. Most everything is in place for the Lighting of the Park and Children's Coloring Contest.
 - b. Donations are still needed for the coloring contest. Toys and cash to buy items are good. There are nine prizes that go to the top three in three age categories.
2. Board Member Election
 - a. Five candidates submitted their nomination forms to be on the ballot for the Chamber Board of Directors. At the meeting, Larry Anderson indicated his desire to resign from the board due to his busy schedule. Alicia will change the ballot to indicate that four positions are now open and ballots will be mailed soon.
3. Community Sign
 - a. David has been working with the city about a community billboard. Representatives from Signs by RSG in Ramsey were on hand to discuss details.
 - b. Cost would be at least \$20,000. Kris recommended leasing as an option as the technology changes so fast.
 - c. David will continue to work with the city about the details.
4. Nametags

- a. Joe from Premier Specialties was on hand to discuss details of a name tag with the Chamber name and logo that has a slot for a business card. This would be given to members to wear at events instead of the stickers we have now.
 - b. The board approved Joe to go ahead and order 100 blue nametags at a cost of no more than \$4 a piece.
5. Annual Dinner
- a. The dinner committee presented their preparations so far for the dinner, to be held January 22 at The Refuge. It will include a live auction, snowmobile raffle, sit-down dinner and wall of wine.
 - b. Sandy has been working on marketing and has a schedule for information to be mailed, emailed, put on the web site and handed out.
 - c. Lynn has been working on the dinner aspect. The price was lowered to encourage more people to attend. The goal is to sell 80 dinner tickets.
 - d. Kris has been working on the wall of wine and snowmobile raffle. She wants to collect bottles from members' personal collections. Corks and wines are needed.
 - e. Stephanie is working on the pie auction. She is getting Betty's Pies from White Bear Lake.
 - f. The snowmobile will cost the Chamber \$5,000. 250 raffle tickets must be sold to break even. Only 500 tickets will be available. The idea behind the snowmobile raffle is to promote that the trail is back through town.

5. New Business

1. Area Guide
 - a. Connie would like to see a new area guide by the expo in April. David and Janice will serve on this committee.
2. Networking Events
 - a. Larry will still try to bring in Representative Rob Eastlund, who was unable to come sooner due to surgery.

6. Other

1. The city again has holiday decorations available for free for businesses to borrow to display during the holiday season. Alicia will promote this in the eNews.

The regular monthly meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative