



*St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce*

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**Regular St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, February 17, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Janice Audette, Stephanie Wallin, Elaine Mustari, David Johnson, Don Hiller, Bob King, Kerby Scherer, Lynn Moe and Brian Opp  
Members absent: none  
Others present: Connie Tillman, Gary Zimmerman

**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 11:03 a.m., February 20, at the St. Francis Community Center.

**2. Previous Month's Minutes**

1. January meeting minutes were approved.

**3. Reports**

1. Treasurer's Report by Kerby Scherer.
  - a. Account balances: operating account balance of \$4,850.57, and money market of \$13,619.41.
  - b. As of February 17, 24 members had renewed their dues.
2. Annual Dinner report
  - a. The annual dinner held January 22 was a huge success. There was a lot of positive feedback. The only negative feedback was that the auction was a bit long.
  - b. More than 140 dinner tickets were sold, 26 sponsorships, and 349 snowmobile raffle tickets. Greg Walter of East Bethel was the snowmobile raffle winner. The auction brought in \$3,000 and wall of wine \$715.
  - c. After expenses, which included advertisements, wine, food and facility, printing and decorations, the total profit was \$4,556.68.
  - d. For next time, David would like to use other avenues to sell raffle tickets, besides board members. And more time to sell would also be helpful.
3. Web site, eNews reports
  - a. Since last meeting, the web site has been averaging nearly around 380 unique visitors, 20,000 hits.
  - b. The eNews averages 80 subscribers, 42 opens and 17 clicks.
  - c. Both numbers were up significantly following the annual dinner.

**4. Old Business**

1. Expo Update
  - a. Expo Committee Chairwoman Connie Tillman was on hand to give an update on the upcoming community expo, April 17. Additions this year are use of the entire gym and live radio broadcasts from BOB-FM.
  - b. The event will be family-friendly and will feature several prizes and giveaways.
  - c. At meeting time, there were six businesses signed up for booths.
2. Community Sign
  - a. David continues to work with the city about putting up an electronic message board somewhere along Highway 47. The city is putting up a sign at the liquor store, so they request not near there and not near the schools to avoid distraction. By the ball fields or south of Mansetti's may be options.
  - b. The final cost of the sign may be around \$30,000.
3. Committee Sign Up

- a. Alicia passed around a sign up sheet for committees.

**5. New Business**

1. Networking Events
  - a. David has tentatively set up March 16 with a lawyer to talk about entrepreneurship.
  - b. Brian has someone he can bring in to talk about health insurance for small businesses.
  - c. Elaine would like to bring in the city administrator to talk about city issues.

**6. Other**

1. St. Francis High School has requested scholarships. The Chamber usually gives three \$500 scholarships with the criteria that the student is going into a business-related field. The board approved this request again.
2. Gary has been looking into supplementing the Chamber's insurance with a separate policy to cover board/employee liability. The board approved the purchase of this policy, which would cost about \$800 a year.
3. Snowmobile Trail
  - a. Feedback about the snowmobile trail has been positive and the only concern is if the machines have at all wreaked the walking path surface.

The regular monthly meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:07 p.m.

Recorded by Alicia Loehlein, Service Representative