



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 6, 2007

1:00 PM

PRESENT:

Officers and Directors: Julie Anderson, Mike Anderson, Marc Campeau, Jan Carl, Frank Christopherson, Todd Cummings, T. Janet Musgrove, Bruce Nelson, Eric Nelson, Patrick Shifferdecker, Carly Weinholzer and Becky Schueller, Secretary.

Chamber Members: Mayor Jane Robbins, City of Pine City; Rick Herzog, Pizza Pub; and Jack Klein, AgStar Mortgage Services.

Guests: Marge Fagerstrom, Volunteer Ambulance Coordinator

AGENDA:

President T. Janet Musgrove called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

President's Topics (T. Janet Musgrove)

Board Member Resignations: Mary Johnson, representing Wal*Mart Super Center, has submitted her resignation to the Chamber Board of Directors. There is a possibility of one other vacancy on the board, but it has not been made official. At this time we will need to begin the nomination process and according to our by-laws, a majority vote of the Board of Directors will be allowed to fill this vacancy. Chamber members are reminded that any owner or employee that is willing to serve is eligible. Nominations should be sent to the Chamber Office by mail, fax, or email prior to the April 3rd board meeting.

Chamber note cards: As they are not a budgeted item, TJ requested approval to purchase note cards at a cost of approximately \$100 for 100 cards/envelopes. Motion was made (MC), seconded (JA) and approved.

Freedom Fest: Mayor Jane was in attendance today to update the Chamber on the status of continuing the Freedom Fest event. The dates were set by the committee for June 29 - 31 with a variety of events being planned. Monroe Crossing will perform at Art in the Park on Friday evening followed by a street dance sponsored by Pizza Pub. On Saturday, the Relay for Life will be at the fairgrounds as well as the fireworks presentation. On Sunday, the Cross Lake Association is planning their annual boat parade and the American Legion is planning their annual pig roast. Other events are still in the works, if another group is interested in contributing, they should attend the next meeting on April 3rd at 4PM in the Community Room.

Secretary's Report (Becky Schueller)

Membership Update for 2007: As of March 6th we have 134 paid members and only 25 unpaid renewals. If we retain all of those renewals we will be at 159 members, down 4 from the end of 2006. Any unpaid renewal members will be removed from the Chamber website on March 31st and be placed on inactive status.

Hometown Super Saver Cards: We received our copy of the cards today. The overall value for the consumer has increased approximately \$500. There is more participation from businesses that are not Chamber members, than those that are. Becky asked if the Chamber would like letters mailed to those non-members with membership information. Action: Becky will create and mail letters prior to the next board meeting.

Dex Listing (East Central MN Directory): A yellow page listing under the heading of "Chambers of Commerce" that includes our telephone number and address can be



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purchased at a cost of \$7 per month/\$84 per year. A motion was made (PS) to place this listing in the 2007 edition of the Dex Directory, seconded (TC), motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: February general expenses were submitted for approval. There were a number of chamber bucks reimbursements this month and the Arts Council requested their funds this month as well. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as submitted (BI), seconded (CW) and motion carried.

Easter Eggstravaganza: (Mark Campeau)

Mark reported on the Student Senate bake sale held during the Gun Show the last weekend in February. The sale yielded \$300 profit that will be earmarked for the Easter Eggstravaganza. Mark has 5-6 student senate volunteers willing to assist at the event on March 31st, but will email chamber members and board of directors with more details in the coming weeks.

Ambassador Visits: (TJ Musgrove)

Ambassador visits will take place on March 14, 2007. Visits are scheduled for: The Creeks Edge at 1PM, Country Insurance & Financial at 1:30PM and Picturing Pine at 1:45PM. It was also noted that Wendy Johnson had hoped to be here today todiscuss a change in the complimentary membership that is given to these businesses. Becky and TJ presented the information and a motion was made (JA) to reduce the complimentary membership to a length of 3 months following the date of the visit, seconded (TC) and motion approved.

Parade 2007 Update: (TJ Musgrove)

Letters were mailed out mid-February to service groups and local businesses that have made contributions over the last several years to the Parade Fund asking them to make their pledge for 2007. This was done in order to better project the income so that we can book new entertainment for the 2007 parade. As of March 6, we have received over \$4000 in pledges. At this time, TJ has tentatively booked the bagpipe marching band from last year's parade as well as the Coon Rapids Cardinals marching band.

EDA/STAR FORUM/HCP: (Frank Christopherson)

EDA was cancelled last month, but is scheduled to meet tomorrow (March 7). The Star Forum meeting was combined with the Freedom Fest meeting that was held last night (March 5) and Mayor Jane previously reported on that progress. No further report was necessary.

Guest Speaker, Marge Fagerstrom, Volunteer Ambulance Coordinator:

Marge visited with the Chamber Board of Director's today looking for feedback on how to get more volunteer EMT's to work with the ambulance service in Pine County and ways to get assistance from local businesses. Marge provided some history on the changes for the ambulance service that have occurred over the last few years. In 2003 the Pine County Board moved the ambulance service to management with Pine Medical Center and has since grown to include paramedic staff, employed EMT's and volunteers.

Despite these improvements, in recent months there has been a shortage of volunteer staffing to help fill the on-call hours during daytime shifts. Pine Medical Ambulance (PMA) service does offer some incentives for new volunteers. After completing the 120 hour



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training course and serving with PMA for one year a volunteer can get their course fees reimbursed to them. There is an on-call stipend, and when called to a run, volunteers receive an additional hourly rate for the duration of the call.

The Chamber Directors generated some ideas and have offered to speak to some of the larger businesses in Pine City that may be able to allow an employee to be available for call during the work day.

Other Business (not on agenda):

Rick Herzog, owner of Pizza Pub, voiced his concerns regarding the Super Saver Card. Rick doesn't participate in the card because he feels that there is not enough money coming back into the local businesses and Pine City area. As a local business owner, he feels that this card is costing smaller businesses more money that it is actually bringing in. He feels that this is a program that the Chamber of Commerce should not be sponsoring but should look into other companies or creating a locally produced card that would better serve the community as a whole.

Eric Nelson, student director, asked questions regarding the cost of producing the cards and the cost to the consumer. He feels we should consider looking into a more locally produced card that would have greater benefits for a number of different groups within the schools and community.

Todd Cummings inquired on the possibility of having a new portable sign made for events such as the Lifestyle show. The one that was used this year has become worn and should be replaced. President Musgrove also noted that we should also be looking at signage to be used at Pine Technical College to better direct people to the Chamber office. A committee will be formed and we hope to present some information at the next board meeting.

Motion was made (MC) to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 PM, seconded. (TC)

NEXT BOARD MEETING: *Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at 1:00 PM*
New Location: Pine City Community Room