

Minutes  
Albany Area Chamber of Commerce  
General Membership Meeting  
January 18, 2012  
12:00 p.m. @ Grace Alive! Church

Members present: Melissa Gerads, Kathleen Magel, Evelyn Budde, Jeannie White, Tom Schneider, Steve Dooley, Lynn Pennie, Ross Voit, Aaron Smith, Janine Kutter, Mary Sauerer, Paul Tomczik, Timothy Vos, Gaylene Hansen, Cindy Neinaber, Kathy Lange, Emily Gruenke, Lynn Jenc, Renee Thelen, Derrick Meyer, Pastor Joe Williquette, Pam Williquette, Steve Danzal and Jason Falconer. Guest, Kaye Schmainda

Meeting called to order by Chamber President, Kathleen Magel @ 12:10 p.m. Thank you to Pastor Joe Williquette for the use of the facility and to Steve Danzal, Twin Pines Catering, for the wonderful lunch.

Introductions were made.

The general membership reviewed the minutes from the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. No changes or corrections made. Motion to approve the minutes made by Evelyn Budde and seconded by Janine Kutter.

Treasurer report was presented by treasurer, Aaron Smith. In the coming years, the goal of the chamber is to stay closer on budget and not to have a large deficit. Dues for 2012 continue to come in. All other activity was standard for the month. No changes or corrections made to the Treasurers report. Motion to approve the treasurer report made by Jeannie White and seconded by Mary Sauerer.

Albany Buck report was available for review. Balance in the account is \$2,659.49. December was very busy with the Holiday Promo. Albany Buck sales for December totaled \$5,605.00 and \$310.00 given away. It was suggested making the Albany Buck smaller, maybe the size of a credit card. Right now the Albany Chamber has a sufficient supply of Albany Bucks on hand. The Albany Bucks are printed 3 to a page which is the most cost effective.

The Chamber Annual Banquet is January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Tickets may be purchased at the chamber office, Central MN Credit Union and Stearns Bank, Albany. Advance tickets are \$12 through January 24<sup>th</sup> or \$15 at the door. There were tickets and nomination forms available at today's meeting. If you have not turned in your nomination form, please do so soon. Ticket sales are down from last year. The Cupcake Company will be doing the dessert for this year's banquet. Door prizes are also needed. Door prizes may be dropped off at the chamber office or brought to Paul's Par-A-Dice on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., appeared before the Chamber membership to update the members on the 2012 Railroad Avenue (T.H. #238) Improvements. Mr. Schneider noted that the plans and specifications are in the hands of MnDOT who should be completed with their review within the next week or so. Upon completion, the City Council will approve the plans and specifications and set a bid date for the improvements that will include a final public hearing to be held before construction begins. Mr. Schneider also noted that the City will close on the Albany Antique Center property on March 15, 2012 and if anyone is interested in redevelopment of the property they should contact City Hall. Mr. Schneider also noted that the 8th Street and Railroad Avenue intersection will be widened with a right hand turn lane on 8th Street and discussions are being held with MnDOT to construct a left turn lane on 8th Street between Co. Rds. 41/10 and Railroad Avenue. Lastly, Mr. Schneider mentioned that the Main Street Committee will meet on January 26th at City Hall to discuss the project improvements and Judy Jacobs, a MnDOT Public Relations Specialist, will be available to assist the committee in providing information to the public and businesses to minimize the impact to everyone during construction.

The Albany Lions Sweetheart Dinner & Raffle is February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at Paul's Par-A-Dice. Dinner tickets are \$30 each, raffle tickets \$20 each. Entertainment provided by Tim Gabrielson, Comedian/Magician. All proceeds from the dinner are for local area projects.

Ms. Magel introduced Kaye Schmainda who talked about the "HUNGER CHALLENGE", an Albany area food-packing event which will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2012 in the Albany High School gymnasium.

Prize drawing winner was Lynn Jenc.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at noon at Albany Bowling Center

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Fish - Executive Secretary