

Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes
March 17, 2010
(Watertown Community Center)
www.watertown-chamber.com

The meeting was called to order by President Kyle McDonough. There were 25 present. Introductions were made. Meal catered by MarketPlace Foods.

- Meet and Greet was March 11 at the Lodge.
- Sue Burk presented current treasury update, thanked those who have paid their dues, and requested those who have not paid yet to please do so.
- A task force has been called for to promote business in Watertown, especially during a time when access might be difficult. The first meeting is scheduled this Wednesday March 24, 12:00 at the Watertown Community Center. All members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend. Please contact Evonne Dennis at secretary@watertown-chamber.com to sign up.
- Steven Wallner spoke of the lack of communication from MnDot, and the need for a business person liaison was discussed.

Committees Reports:

Retail Committee: Scott Cassidy-Chair (designed to come up with new ideas to support local businesses.) The committee is currently working on ideas for Rails to Trails participation, and the city wide garage sales event is scheduled for May 20-22. Registration forms can be found on the Chamber's website.

Ambassador Committee: Judy Vanderlinde-Chair (welcoming and inviting new businesses to the Chamber of Commerce and to Watertown, and to keep current members active in the Chamber.) Please welcome the Stop-N-Go as a new member. One visit was scheduled last month, with a few more coming up. If you know of any new businesses in the area please let Judy Vanderlinde know.

Educator's Dinner Committee: Abbie McDonald-Chair (plan and perform the educator's dinner, September 2010.)

Performing Arts Committee: Ken Grotbo- Chair (coordinate with Watertown-Mayer Performing Arts center to sponsor events.) The Minnesota Orchestra is coming May 2011, and the St. Paul Chamber

Orchestra has approached the school about doing a holiday concert, and the possibility of an ongoing concert series.

John Tackaberry spoke on the need to market your community.

- The thoughts and ideas behind the Delano Highway 12 task force were presented.
- Marketing the community needs to be the focus not just directing traffic through road construction.
- Use this opportunity as a wake up call to network, promote and inspire. This should start with the business people shopping in their own community for what is available there, not shopping elsewhere.
- Everyone is invited to attend the Delano Highway 12 Task Force meeting 9:00am Tuesday, March 23 at Star West Chevrolet-Honda Sport dealership.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm

Next meeting: April 21, 2010 at Watertown Community Center and speaking will be Dave Martini presenting the coming road projects.