

**Coloma Watervliet Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes January 9, 2007
Friendly Tavern**

Members Present: Sandy Kraemer, Joan Bujack, Deb Shannon, Thelma Evett, Pat Moody, Maria DiPrima, Lee Scherwitz, Rick Rasmussen, Ken Craig, Kevin Gillette, Sue Moser, and Chana Kniebes

Others Present: Rep. John Proos

Call to Order and Introductions: President Kraemer called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Scherwitz and supported by Rasmussen to approve the November 14, 2006 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kniebes reported that there is \$14,194.49 as of December 31, 2006 in the chamber checking account and \$3,580.27 in the chamber savings account. Bills paid in the month of November total \$665.33 and for the month of December \$951.21. A motion was made by Bujack and supported by Moody to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Kniebes reported that there are 124 total chamber members. Berrien County Community Development, Bob's Barn Farm Market and Bakery are the newest chamber members. Welcome Baskets were delivered to Bob's Barn Farm Market and Bakery and BurkeShire House of Antiques and Collectibles.

Old Business:

Red Arrow Signage: The sign is up and there has been more interest generated for businesses requesting to buy panels.

Map Project. The three cover choices for the chamber map were distributed to members present for review and comments. Kniebes will take suggestions for changes from each of the choices and work with NovoPrint to come up with a cover. The website and logo need to be included with any cover choices.

Survey and Business Recognition Forms: There are still surveys and nomination forms coming in for consideration. The Business Recognition Committee will meet soon to discuss plans for a spring dinner.

New Business:

Bujack announced that she would be stepping down from the position of Vice President. Her replacement for the position will be Debra Shannon from Fifth Third who presently holds the Secretary position and Thelma Evett will then take Shannon's place as Secretary. There is still a vacancy on the board for a Watervliet Board member. Kraemer thanked Bujack for her service and regretfully accepted her resignation.

Budget 2007: Scherwitz and Kniebes will work on the budget for the 2007. There will be little change from the previous year. A draft should be available for the next board meeting.

Miscellaneous: Representative John Proos gave a legislative update to the chamber. A meeting is in the works coordinated through Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce to hold an eye opener to discuss the end of the Single Business Tax and its replacement options. This will be an opportunity for legislative leaders to hear comments and suggestions from business owners. The meeting date has not yet been set. Kraemer thanked Rep. Proos for his update.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Bujack and supported by Evett to adjourn the meeting at 12:47. Motion carried.

The next regular chamber meeting will be held on February 13th 2007 12 noon at the Paw Paw Lake Board of Trade.

Respectfully submitted,

Chana Kniebes, Recording Secretary

