

West Union Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors Meeting  
MINUTES  
December 11, 2008

Members present: Jane Blumhagen, Deb Merrill, Robin Bostrom, Kristine Krivachek, Cheryl Meyer

President Jane Blumhagen called the meeting to order. The agenda was approved as written.

Michelle Zander from Vista was at the meeting and will be working in the Chamber office for the next year.

**Budget:** See spread sheet for what expenses have been for the last year. All the green shopping bags have been paid for. Still waiting for the bill for the screen printing. People have been coming in and purchasing the bags, both kinds. More than anticipated. Note on phone bill – long distance carrier changed this summer. Currently getting 2 phone bills. Robin has been working on getting the best long distance carrier.

**Building Repair:** Repairs are complete on the upstairs apartment. Still trying to get someone to give a bid on insulating the basement.

Motion by Deb M. to set up a Building Committee to help with building upkeep. This could be other Chamber members, but have one Chamber Board member on the committee so there is someone to report back to the Chamber. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cheryl M. One suggestion was to use a retired carpenter. Should an ad be run in the paper?

Empty Board Seat – 2 members going off. Need names by January.

Santa visit – numbers were down. About 60 kids came to see Santa. 120 activity books were ordered, there are 60 left. Kids really seemed to like the books. \$50 scrip money and a thank you note were given to Santa, Terry Grant.

Robin will mail the bills for Chamber dues instead of including them with mailing. Bills seemed to get lost when that was done.

Mel's Country Store had moved downtown. They would like a ribbon cutting, but want to wait until January. They are doing some work on the store.

Community Awards Banquet is January 17<sup>th</sup>. First National Bank is having their party the same night. Planning Committee met and the theme is Winter Wonderland, winter sports, etc., big band music. Budget of \$1,500 to work with for food and decorations. Kristine will check with Kerndt Brothers Savings Bank and see if we can use some of their Christmas decorations. Tickets will be \$15 each.

Robin is sending letters to the restaurants to see who would like to cater the dinner. Last year all restaurants got to participate. That turned out to be just too much work. The caterer could be rotated to a different restaurant each year.

Awards – 4 names have been submitted. 3 for community award and 1 for youth. Still need names for religion, health and education. Award winners will be picked Tuesday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>, 8 am, at the Chamber office.

Chamber has someone to shovel the sidewalks, but it could need shoveled more often if it snows during the day. Also, need someone to clean the office on a monthly basis.

It has come to the attention of the Chamber that there is interest in having more 10 minute parking spots downtown. Currently there are 2 in each block. A survey could be done when the weather is nicer to see how many vehicles park and stay all day. These are most likely people who work in the businesses. Need to work on getting employees to park off the main street.

Adjourn.

Next meeting will be December 30, 2008, 8 am, select Community Award recipients.

Next main meeting will be January 13, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Merrill, Secretary