

**Foristell Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Regular Meeting January 4, 2011**

PRESENT: Ray Alexander, Peggy Alexander, Larry Shroth, Carol Powelson, Jackie King, Michelle Smith, Philip Reid, Sandy Stokes, Frank Eggering, John Pickering, Chris Gaines, Mark Van Dillen, Marvin Rodenbaugh, Charlene Twiehaus, John Eberhart, Nancy Hance

Guests in attendance: Lori Kohrs from United Services

Marvin Rodenbaugh gave the blessing and lunch was served.

President Tim Hooten called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed members and guests. Those in attendance introduced themselves and the company they represent..

Minutes:

The minutes of the December 7, 2010 meeting were emailed prior to today's meeting. Tim asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. Jackie King had been listed as the winner of the 50/50 drawing at the last meeting, but Jackie Stewart was actually the winner. Larry Shroth made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction, Marvin Rodenbaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Nancy Hance presented the Treasurer's Report. To date, seven members have paid dues for 2011. All members are encouraged to pay their dues as soon as possible. A motion was made by Ray Alexander and seconded by Larry Shroth to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

City Report:

Sandy Stokes reported that the Foristell Holiday Open House was a tremendous success. Over 250 people attended and 50 gifts were donated. Sandy thanked the Chamber for their support. The city has been able to keep up with the winter storms with one truck and one snow plow. Alderman John Pickering mentioned that single stream recycling starts on January 5 on the south side of the city.

School District Reports:

Chris Gaines, Superintendent of Wright City Schools, reported that students are back at school today for the second semester. The district had seven new enrollees. Basketball season is in full swing. The district will host two track meets on the new track this spring. There are still concerns with the state budget.

There was no report from the Wentzville School District.

Program:

Lori Kohrs from United Services spoke about the services offered by this not for profit organization. Their mission is to serve preschool age children with delays or disabilities. United Services serves five school districts in St. Charles County through two facilities, one in St. Peters and the other in Dardenne Prairie. United Services serves 1100 kids each year with a staff of 250. They also have a preschool program which serves typically developing children. New to Warren County, United Services is currently serving about 15 children. Lori mentioned grant money is available if someone needs preschool, openings exist in the Warren County facility. United Services operates on a \$10 million budget. Their Autism program has grown over the last five years. Eighty percent of the children in this program go on to kindergarten with little or no support.

Old Business:

Tim reminded members to pay their membership dues in a timely manner. St Charles County League of Chambers is hosting a Super Business After Hours on Thursday, February 10 at American.

New Business:

The Chamber received a letter from Shepherd's Pantry thanking the Chamber for their support.

Announcements:

New applications are available for Costco's Business to Business book. They are due by the first part of February and will be dispersed by March 1.

Frank Eggering from Foristell Storage asked for interested parties to help raise money locally for a new YMCA in Wentzville. Plans for a full service facility have stalled in the last few years, but Frank is hoping to raise the remaining \$400,000 of the one million needed so that the YMCA will donate the remaining money for the project. Frank can be contacted at 636-625-3447.

Foristell Chamber is putting together a basket for the Super Business After Hours event. Please drop off items at Porlier that you would like to have included in the basket.

The Food Pantry is in need of donations, even after the generosity of everyone at the Holiday Open House. If the pantry is closed, donations can be dropped off at City Hall and Sandy Stokes will be sure the food is delivered to the pantry.

Jackie Stewart announced the one year anniversary of Interstate Subs.

Larry Shroth won the 50/50 drawing. Philip Reid is the featured business on the web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura McLane, Secretary