

**MINUTES**  
**Grand Rapids Area Chamber**  
**Area Business Committee**  
**August 25th 2011**

**Members Present:** Jim Lamke, Kurt Ogle, John Weber, Jason Janesich, Cheryl Lemler, Jeff Lefebvre

**Guest:** Tom Pagel

**Chamber Staff:** Kerry Larsen & Bud Stone

Jason called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Kurt Ogle made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. John Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

**ACTION:** No further action needed

**GUEST - TOM PAGEL:**

Tom Pagel attended the Area Business Committee and updated the committee members on the Pokegama Ave. South (Hwy.169 So.) project. The committee discussed about how the Chamber can play a role in this project. Bud mentioned that the Membership Committee will try and meet with businesses that will be affected by this project. The committee felt that by meeting with the businesses it will help in educating members on what the project is about and the different phases in which it will be done. The Membership Committee meets with about seventy five members a year.

**ACTION:** No further action is needed.

**EVENTS PROMOTION:**

The committee discussed the “event conversation” regarding a recommendation for a policy change. After a lengthy discussion the committee decided it should be “pay to play and business as usual”. The committee feels that there is too much of a gray area to continue with this. Bev Leckie made a motion to not go any further with the “event conversation” discussion; Kurt Ogle seconded; Motion carried.

**ACTION:** No change in promotional policy for events will be forwarded to the board.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

The next few meetings will be dedicated to the budget for 2012, Goals & Mission Statement and chair/chairs for 2012. Kerry will get all reports needed to discuss the budget at the September meeting.

**ACTION:** Kerry will get all the reports needed to discuss the budget at the September meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be October 27th 2011 at 8:00 a.m. – Chamber Conference Room.

Minutes Submitted by Kerry Larsen - Membership & Tourism Coordinator