

**Young Professionals  
Chamber Conference Room  
February 14th, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Melissa Roberts, Cory Jackson, Mike Stefan, Kristina Clark, Brittney Venaas, Shannon Rajala, Drew Prochazka

**STAFF:** Carie Olds

Melissa Roberts called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2008 MEETING MINUTES**

Kristina Clark made a motion to approve the January minutes; Mike Stefan seconded; motion carried.

**UPDATE NAME LISTINGS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES**

A database of all YP members and contact information is needed for all current and interested individuals in Young Professionals.

**ACTION:**

Carie Olds will transfer the names and emails into this database as it is created.

**UPDATE ON “WHAT’S UP ITASCA” CORY, GUY AND MIKE AND SHANNON**

There is no new business.

**ACTION:**

Sub-committee will meet prior to the event held February 29<sup>th</sup>. New information and updates will be given at the February event.

**JANUARY EVENT FEEDBACK**

- Melissa Roberts gave an update on the future of the YPG and the importance to focus on “quality rather than quantity.” Melissa spoke about the meeting that was held with herself, Carie Olds and Bud Stone regarding the leadership possibilities for this committee as well as the importance of engaging the participants in local activities such as a City council meeting or a County Board Meeting.

It was emphasized that the YPG needs a number of core participants that want to get engaged and take more ownership within this group. The group feels that participation in YPG activities now, involves the same chamber members as it did when it first started. These core committee members, once engaged, need to be committed to becoming more involved in the Young Professionals.

- Shannon Rajala updated the group with the feedback she received at the January event. An events calendar was an item that many would like to have readily available regarding events. She also provided a list of interested individuals and their contact information for future YPG events.
- To expand on Bud Stone’s previous suggestions, the steering committee, might become the planning committee to line up tours and dialogue with local and regional businesses and attractions for the core group. A visit to a taconite mine,

Blandin Paper, Ironworld, a School Superintendent, etc. could prove to be invaluable to the YPG in the future. The possibilities are virtually endless with some imagination.

- A list of individuals who might fill the bill as members of the core group was put together. Amanda Miller, Jason Merritt, Shannon Merritt, Zack Greimann, Cory Greimann, Andy Mundt, Nicole Graham, Katie Jewett, Dave Cartwright, Kristi Kane and Heidi Clairmont are being considered for that group.
- Cory Jackson expressed concern that this “core” group of individuals will portray an exclusion to others that would like to be part of the YPG. With these concerns being valid, Carie Olds suggested to the committee that this core group will act as leaders to others that are interested. They would be the primary set of individuals that would welcome new members to the group making sure that they feel welcome to participate and engaging them in the activities.
- All members of the steering committee agreed to proceed with this smaller group format and get them engaged as soon as early February to coincide with the leadership activities that the steering committee will be arranging.
- So, to clarify, a smaller steering committee will be setting the agenda for the larger core group, and the core group will be engaged in the activities on the agenda with the steering committee. Those activities will vary month to month. The core group will also be responsible for the growth of the committee and keeping both the old and new members engaged.

**ACTION:**

Carie Olds will contact each of the nominated core group members and invite them to be part of a February YPG luncheon..

What’s up Itasca sub-committee will meet to present updates at the February YPG luncheon.

Carie Olds will complete the database with information for YP members.

**FEBRUARY EVENT STATUS**

Carie Olds updated the group about the luncheon for the February event. It will be held at the Forest Lake Restaurant on February 29<sup>th</sup> , 2008, at 11:30 a.m.

Carie Olds suggested that a \$2.00 fee at the door plus a business card will be a good way to create revenue to cover past expenses. This was agreed upon unanimously by the committee.

**ACTION:**

Carie Olds will send out invitation via email for this event.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Carie Olds expressed the importance of having a sub-committee or steering committee to do event planning. This committee will meet separately, and provide updates to the full committee, including the core group, at each monthly meeting.

Shannon Rajala and Brittney Venaas signed on to be part of this sub-committee.

### **AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH MEETING**

February core YP event will be discussed. What's up Itasca will update. Event committee will provide update. Actions for YP leaders to be presented.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be March 13th @ 12:00 noon, Chamber Conference Room

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by Carie Olds – Membership Assistant