

Bel Aire Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes: July 7, 2010

The July 7th meeting of the Bel Aire Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order by Ty Lasher.

Introduction of all members in attendance were made. Those present included: Ty Lasher, City of Bel Aire; Brad Edwards, Chisholm Trail State Bank; Lauren Thiessen, Scott Rice Office Interiors; Norm Duncan, True Life Church; Harold Smith, City of Bel Aire; Caryoln Marlier, City of Bel Aire; Tom Kaleko, Springsted; Sarah R. Gilbert, Ruth's HomeWorks Inc.; Rebecca Meyer, City of Bel Aire

Matt Stiles made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 2, 2010 meeting, seconded by Lauren Thiessen. Motion carried.

Treasurer Brad Edwards presented a Treasurer's Report. Edwards indicated the balance in the account was \$2,857.33. He also mentioned the Chamber has 30 paid members to date in the 2010 year.

Rebecca Meyer discussed updates to the Bel Aire Area Chamber of Commerce website. Agendas and Minutes from Chamber meetings will now be posted online. Additional resources, such as handouts and contact information for guest speakers, will be posted online. Meyer also discussed the Business Information Sheets, which will be used for website improvements and providing detailed information about businesses.

Matt Stiles discussed an advertisement in the magazine Business Images the City purchased. The City included the Chamber logo in the ad and had intended to bring this topic up at the last meeting. Matt requested approval for the Chamber to purchase a portion of the ad. Half of the ad cost was estimated to be \$1,300. Brad Edwards made a motion to approve the advertisement and the expenditure of \$1,300 to the ad, seconded by Lauren Thiessen. Motion carried.

Rebecca Meyer presented the Business Appreciation Month Merit Award Certificate from the Kansas Department of Commerce to Sarah R. Gilbert from Ruth's HomeWork's Inc.

Ty Lasher and Rebecca Meyer introduced a discussion over a social event for Chamber members. Ideas generated by members include:

- utilizing local businesses as a venue
- event should take place in the early evening (5 PM -7 PM)
- cocktails and hor 'doerves
- tours of facility during event
- event to take place in the fall, possibly quarterly thereafter

Stacy Nichols and Candy Crandall from the Breakthrough Club spoke about how members can benefit from their services. Breakthrough is a social and vocational program for persons with mental illnesses. Breakthrough works with businesses to place individuals in entry level positions while offering mediation and support.

The meeting was adjourned by Ty Lasher.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, August 4, 2010.