

Sauk Rapids Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2009

Meeting Location: Sauk Rapids High School

Sponsor: Stangl & Jaskowiak

Introductions, welcome and permanent name badge recipients' presented by Amanda Carlson, Good Shepherd Community and Chair of Sauk Rapids Chamber.

60 Second Spotlight: Dr. Walker Brown, Pine Cone Hospital. Pinecone Pet Hospital is located in Sartell. They have two veterinarians and focus on small animals and "pocket pets" like ferrets, gerbils etc.

Sponsor Presentation: Jaskowiak and Stangl and Premier Advisors Group.

- Adam has been in business since 1984. In 1995 he partnered with Clyde Stangl who had been in business since 1980.
- They have a full time staff of 10 people year round and during tax season they bring on an additional 10 staff.
- Their business is both business and individual returns. They are there year round to help answer any questions.
- They work with non-profit organizations as well as new companies with start up all the way through to the eventual selling of a business and everything in between.
- Payroll services are also available. You do not need to be an accounting / tax client in order to use their payroll services department.
- Premier Advisors Group believes their mission is to help you with your life. Helping you bridge your current life situations to the future and helping you to achieve your financial goals, turning dreams into realities.
- They work with individuals, families and business owners.
- They are located at 1428 2nd St. No, Sauk Rapids. 320-252-9972

Speaker Presentation: Mike Bellos –Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves.

- The roll of The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves is to educate employers on valuing and supporting their employees who are in any branch of the service—active or reserves. The act is called "Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act"
- They help to educate businesses on the rights of the employee who is in the military and the employer's responsibility.
- Also to educate the service men and women on their responsibilities in contacting their employer upon their return from active duty. (They need to contact their employer within the first 90 days of returning home)
- Ombudsman services are also available
- They will help mediate any employment issues if needed for returning military.
- They also encourage businesses to support their employees that are in the service.
- 1% of our population is in the military and 48% of those folks are in the reserves.

Executive Committee Report-Jodi Speicher Good Shepherd Community-

- Federal Card Check legislation is back on the table. This makes it easier to unionize. There would be no private voting with this bill.
- With the bonding bill, the governor line item vetoed the St. Cloud Civic Center.
- A group from the Chamber went to Washington, D.C. and was able to meet with all but one of MN's members of Congress.

- Chamber Planning retreat will be June 23rd. If any one has ideas/suggestions regarding the Chamber contact Gail or any of the Sauk Rapids Executive Committee to give them your ideas.
- Gail Ivers spoke about the “Get Ready to Grow” loan and grant program. Application deadline is on 5/29. There were a number of applicants from the St. Cloud area.

Membership report: Wendy Franzwa-Chamber Staff-

- Sauk Rapids Chamber has met its goals so far this year of increasing membership by one new member per month.
- New members for April were Dream Restoration and Four Seasons
- May new member is Infinite Eye Care located in Sauk Rapids.

School District Update: Greg Vandal

- May 28th last student day for the year.
- At this point the district will be able to have the same offerings as last year. Once the final budget is in place they may need to re-evaluate.
- Summer school will start mid June.

Chamber Updates:

- Chamber Golf Open is in August. They are still looking for sponsorships and golfers. Contact the chamber for more info or check the web site.
- Sauk Rapids Chamber is looking for hosts for Business After Hours in October of '09 and spring of '10.
- There are also opportunities still available for hosting the Sauk Rapids Chamber to highlight your business.
- There are openings for the Executive Committee as well. If interested contact Amanda Carlson or Roxanne Ryan.
- St. Cloud Area Leadership class for 2009-2010 still has a few spots open. This is a 9 month one-day-a-month class. Contact the chamber for more information.

General Announcements and Testimonials

PLEASE CONTACT US:

-For more information about the Sauk Rapids Chamber

-To learn how to host a meeting -to offer speaker or meeting suggestions

Amanda Carlson: The Good Shepherd Community, Sauk Rapids Chair at:320-252-6525,

amandacarlson@goodshepherdcampus.org

Roxanne Ryan-Wacosa, Sauk Rapids Vice Chair at 320-257-5192 or rryan@wacosa.org or

Gail Ivers, Sauk Rapids Chamber Staff-320-251-2940 ext.109 orgivers@St.CloudAreaChamber.com

Next month's meeting:

Host: Ron's Cabinets-380 Industrial Blvd. E. Sauk Rapids

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009

Time: 11:45 a.m. --1:00 p.m.