

**MINUTES**  
**WINKLER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, April 20, 2010, 12:10 p.m.**  
**Smitty's Family Restaurant**

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**PRESENT: Brenda Storey, Tara Funke, Laurie Sawatzky, Greg Archibald, Pete Froese, Cherie Fehrmoore, Herb Franz, Eugen Klassen, Dianne Friesen**

**Guests: Hollis Zhang, Karl Huebner**

**A. MINUTES OF January 19, 2010 Meeting (as circulated)**

**M/S...Eugen Klassen, Herb Franz...that the minutes from the January 19, 2010 meeting be accepted as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**B. NEW BUSINESS:**

**i) Update on AGM Gala Dinner**

- The 3 businesses recognized were: Elias Woodwork & Manufacturing, Spent Bros. Premium Meats, Wiebe Funeral Homes
- There were about 200 people in attendance.

**ii) Members Appreciation Bar-B-Q**

- Bar-B-Q will be on Wednesday, May 26 from 11:30 – 1:30 in the South Parking Lot at City Hall.
- Winkler Co-op is sponsor.

**iii) Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament**

- There will be no golf tournament this year as we will be focusing our resources on BR+E surveys again this year.
- Will look at it again next year.

**iv) LeaderCast 2010 – May 7, 2010**

- Formerly was Maximum Impact Simulcast.
- Event is to be held on May 7, 2010 in the Emmanuel Mennonite Church.
- Tickets are \$149.00/ea or \$129.00 for 5 or more.
- Registration form is on Chamber website – [www.winklerchamber.com](http://www.winklerchamber.com)

**v) Women in Business Breakfast – May 12, 2010**

- Next Women in Business breakfast is set for May 12, 2010.
- Women's Enterprise Centre is presenting.
- Breakfast starts at 7:30 am.
- We will be looking for sponsorship.

**vi) Executive Director Report**

- Brenda reported that 90 businesses have been prospected and from those 90 23 have become new members, 16 declined, 24 are pending and 27 need a follow up call.
- Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters held a Lean workshop.
- Executive Board had a presentation from WiBand.
- Brenda met with Morden Chamber to discuss a joint trade show sometime in the future.
- Chamber is participating in an Age Friendly Winkler Initiative.

**vii) Lean Manufacturing Workshop**

- Greg attended workshop and said it was very well presented.
- There were about 50 – 75 in attendance.

**C. CHAMBER REPORTS:**

- i) Presentations by Karl Huebner, Business Immigration Officer & Hollis Zhang, Business Service Officer
- This is a Provincial Nominee Program for Businesses.
  - It is part of Entrepreneurship, Training & Trades branch of the Provincial Government.
  - They focus on business investors overseas.
  - Candidates must have a minimum net worth of \$350,000. With 3 years experience in business ownership or senior management.
  - A business proposal is required.
  - There is a specific procedure that has to be followed when applying – prescreening, exploratory visit, interview and application to Province.
  - Program has been in place since 2001.
  - There have been 800 nominated through this program.
  - 438 businesses have been established with a total initial investment of \$175M.
  - 62% are located in Winnipeg, 2% in the Pembina Valley.
  - When accepted the candidate must establish business within 2 years.

**D. OTHER:**

**E. NEXT MEETING: June 15, 2010**

**F. ADJOURNMENT: 1:00 pm**