

MINUTES

Annual Club Meeting & Pizza Party
Thursday, April 10, 2025
6:00 p.m.
Chisago Lakes Town Hall



Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by President Chris S. at 6:05 p.m. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Attendees introduced themselves.

Steve Adofson	Judy Gulbranson
Marlys Dunne	Paul Olson
Chris Dubose	Miranda Olson
Bruce Meehan	Sandy Hulke
Lori Meehan	Kevin Hulke
Craig Anderson	Rob Lindeman
Patti Anderson	Rochelle Hernandez
Christa Lerfald	Pat Ongstad
Joel Helm	Shelley Lindau
Beth Engstrom	Scott Ross
Dana Helm	Chris Schneider
Freddi	Tim Clark
Lori Fredricksen	Jessie Buhler
Lorraine Swenson	Caryss Buhler
Kathy Prondzinski	Natasha Zarich
Gus Gulbranson (guest)	

Mission Statement & Today's Goals

Chris S. reviewed the meeting goals and talked about the Club's mission statement.

Elect Directors and Officer

Chris explained the Board Members served two-year terms. When the Club first started four years ago, terms were staggered. The Club's bylaws required Board Members to be voted in at the annual meeting. Open Board seats were President, Secretary, Director of Communications, and two Board Member-at-Large seats.

Natasha Z. made motion, Chris D. seconded, to reappoint Chris S. as President. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Miranda O. made motion, Lori M. seconded, to reappoint Shelley L. as Secretary. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Miranda O. made motion, Chris D. seconded, to reappoint Natasha Z. as Director of Communications. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Natasha Z. made motion, Marlys D. seconded, to reappoint Rochell Hernandez as Member at Large. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Marlys D. made motion, Lori M. seconded, to appoint Chris DuBose as Member at Large. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Amendments to Bylaws

Bylaws can be amended annually at the Club meeting. Chris S. asked if anyone wanted to make any changes to the bylaws. There was no response, and Chris encouraged everyone to review them on the website and make suggestions if they wanted anything to change.

Approve of Annual Budget

Treasurer Marlys D. provided the report on the annual budget.

Receipts - The Club received \$5,296 in donations from CenterPoint, Edward Jones, Club members and anonymous donations. The largest donor was CenterPoint, Natasha Z.'s employer. Fundraising events in 2024 included Karl Oscar Days button sales, Triathlon volunteering, and coffee pots sales that raised \$1,815.

Expenses - There was \$7,474 in expenses in 2024, with the largest expense being apparel. Scott R. explained a lot of hats and shirts were given to members who participated in the Zion Church Meals and parades, and there was also merchandise available for sale at the meeting. Other expenses in 2024 included website, events, storage fees, scholarships, meeting costs, printing, sponsorships, and holiday mugs.

2025 Budget – The Club began the year with \$7,978 cash on hand. Approximately \$642 was still in the checkbook that needed to be used to purchase food for the food shelf. Already this year, the Club has received another check from CenterPoint. Patti A. turned over approximately \$600 from coffee pot sales. Chris D. presented a check for \$300 from the Chisago Lakes Rotary for the Club's help during Celebration of the Lakes. The Club is expected to raise \$1,500 for volunteering for the Triathlon. Celebration of the Lakes ATV raffle sales for the past two years will bring in \$3,691 from ticket sales. Anticipated expenses were \$4,500, similar to last year's minus apparel. Money needed to be added for food drive flyers.

Jessie and Caryss offered to complete the purchasing of food for the food shelf.

Formal adoption of the budget was required by the bylaws. Chris D. made motion, Dana seconded, to formally adopt the 2025 budget. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Adopt a Senior Recap

Marlys D. provided a brief update on the Adopt a Senior program. In 2024, the program received \$565 in donations. The major expense was the purchase of the canopy for \$450. There was \$4,512 cash on hand at the end of the year. There was likely to be an expense of approximately \$100 for printing in 2025. There were currently seven matches and a few potential matches. Events during 2024 included the Ice Cream Social and painting of the chapel. Marlys talked about a business plan that was being worked on that may land in a grant with local partnerships.

Supporters

Scott listed businesses that have helped the club noting there were more they needed to add to the list. Scott and Chris were working on a plan to obtain sponsors. The only official sponsor at this point was Edward Jones. Lorraine suggested creating an annual report to send out to potential sponsors.

Scholarship

There was discussion on reviewing applications for the upcoming Chisago Lakes Schools college scholarship. The Club will be presenting one \$500 scholarship, and Marlys reported there were 32 applicants this year. It was agreed to meet on April 17th to review the applications. The award night was May 5. Kevin said he may be able to attend. Chris S. said he would be there.

New Members

Membership Committee Chair Rochelle talked about how she joined the Club in February of 2024 and has enjoyed participating in National Night Out and Adopt a Highway Cleanup events. She was excited to see what 2025 would bring and she asked for ideas and more members to get involved. Caryss offered some suggestions. Rochelle reported there were currently 96 members with 17 of them joining in the past year.

Communications Update

Director of Communications Natasha Z. announced there were 1,023 followers on Facebook and said it helps if members like, share, and tag posts. She showed the QR code that will get you to the site. She shared other ways to stay connected, such as subscribing to the blog, viewing the calendar of events, and watching for emails and GroupMe posts. She encouraged engagement and asked that everyone commit to an event. After signing up, you will be sent a calendar invite. She also encouraged members to continue doing acts of kindness, saying they do not need to go through the Club. If anyone had any questions, they could email the club or reach out to any Club members.

2024 Activities Recap

Scott R. showed pictures that recapped last year's events that included Adopt a Highway cleanup, parades, caroling, coffee pot sales, triathlon, Celebration of the Lakes, Zion Community Meals, painting of the Chapel at Parmly, Trick or Treat on Main Street, Christmas Mugs, and the Shafer Bank robbery reenactment. Miscellaneous acts of kindness included yard cleanup, National Night Out, patio work, rock painting, valentines for seniors, mitten tree, March food drive, and an 80th birthday party, and so many, many more.

Break for pizza

Upcoming Events, Opportunities, & Open Discussion

Natasha discussed annual events throughout the year and asked everyone to keep checking their emails. Chris S. talked about trying to make the events more social and fun and said he was always looking for ideas. Specific events coming up were Adopt a Highway cleanup on May 4, Zion Meal on June 23, and the Lindstrom Steam Kickoff event on June 21 from noon to 6 p.m.

Adopt a Highway - Bruce M. explained he had retired, and he was no longer able to borrow grabbers from his work for the cleanup. He encouraged members to buy one and there was a question on whether the Club should purchase some. There will be a cookout afterwards.

Coffee Pot Steam Event - Scott R. introduced Gus from the Lindstrom Business Group, who talked about the Lindstrom Coffee Pot, saying it was said to be one of the top ten in the nation. The Coffee Pot will be huge for tourism. Everything had been done by donations in labor or funds raised by selling kits. The money will be used for the steam and the future maintenance of it. At the event on June 21, there will be an unveiling of the mural that will be painted on the west wall of the liquor store. There will be Swedish bands, food, and local news channels will be present.

Miscellaneous

Tim thanked everyone for their support with the meal train. He said Sarah is still struggling, but they have connected with a local woman who has had the same illness for 25 years, so they hope to find some relief.

Acts of Kindness

Kevin helped Clarisse with some electrical issues.

Freddy helped push a car off Highway 8 that broke down.

Adjourn

Natasha made motion, Lori M. seconded, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Shelley Lindau

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Lindau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

"Chisago Lakes Good Neighbors club, through its resources and diverse membership, contributes to the needs and wellbeing of our communities through acts of kindness."