

# MINUTES

Board Budget Workshops  
Thursday, January 8, 2025  
Thursday, January 30, 2025  
Wednesday, February 5, 2025  
6:00 p.m.



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## **January 8, 2025, Board Workshop**

The Board met at the Uncommon Loon on January 8 at 6 p.m. Treasurer Marlys Dunne provided information on the past year's expenses and revenues. After one hour and 45 minutes of discussion, another meeting was scheduled for January 30.

## **January 30, 2025, Board Workshop**

The Board met at the Uncommon Loon on January 30 at 6 p.m.

### **Attendance:**

President Chris Schneider  
Vice President Scott Ross  
Treasurer Marlys Dunne  
Secretary Shelley Lindau  
Communications Director Natasha Zarich  
Member at Large Trena Morrison  
Member at Large Craig Anderson  
Member at Large Tim Clark  
Member Rochell Hernandez

Chris provided an update of the January 8, 2025, workshop. He talked about having enough data at this point to future plan. There was discussion on the desire to keep a minimum balance in the checkbook and have funds to operate.

### **Sponsorships**

When the Club formed, there was talk about getting business sponsors, but the Club had not established itself. It was felt that gathering sponsors should be revisited now that the Club was well known in the community; however, it needed to be decided what the sponsorship levels should be and what the sponsors would receive in return. Suggestions included listing sponsors on banners during the parades, providing them a door sticker saying they sponsor the Club, publishing their business on the GNC website and other social media, and including them in the newsletter. There was discussion about printing their logo on shirts, and it was decided that due to logistics it was not feasible. Chris and Scott offered to go door-to-door to seek donations, and it was decided to also approach the Club to see if they members had any connections with businesses that the Club could approach. There was a suggestion to send out donation letters as well.

### **Events**

Chris hoped to increase events to at least twice a year, specifically for children. Thoughts were taking them fishing, hiking, and hosting picnics. It was decided a Gala event would be too risky if the intent was to raise money.

### **Volunteers and Communication**

Chris talked about the Chamber looking for volunteers next weekend at the Celebration of the Lakes to serve food and beer. Chris was told they would split the profits with the Club. This brought up

comments from Natasha about the current lack of volunteers for the candlelight walk, turkey bowling, and dodge ball. She also requested that information that comes to her on volunteer opportunities (not events) be complete with all the information to avoid time spent gathering details before she sends it out to the membership.

### **Membership Fees**

There was discussion on the pros and cons of a membership fee. This fee would be put in a slush fund for snacks after meetings, road clean up, or other Club events. No decision was made.

### **Finance Report**

Marlys reported that approximately \$5,400 was spent last year. There was currently \$6,500 in the checkbook. It was estimated the GNC would receive \$1,500 in donations from Natasha's employer, \$1,500 from working water patrol at the triathlon, \$150 in miscellaneous donations, and \$2,000 expected from the Chamber for ATV ticket sales for Celebration of the Lakes.

Marlys did not have a breakdown of money received through the Square app, which was being used for coffee pot sales and GNC merchandise. Natasha said she could provide Marlys that information.

There was still approximately \$642 left in money received for food shelf donations. Chris was in possession of items that had been purchased that need to be delivered. He said he was now a member of Sam's Club, and it was agreed this task needed to be completed soon.

### **Adopt a Highway**

Marlys met with the County and found out there were approximately two miles of road adjacent to GNC's section on Stacy Road. It was decided to claim that portion for an additional Adopt-a-Highway cleanup.

The meeting concluded at approximately 7 p.m.

### **February 5, 2025, Board Workshop**

The Board met virtually on Google Meet at 6 p.m.

### **Attendance:**

Vice President Scott Ross  
Secretary Shelley Lindau  
Communications Director Natasha Zarich  
Member at Large Craig Anderson  
Member Rochell Hernandez

### **Donation to Fire Victims**

A recent fire occurred in a Shafer apartment complex where there were seven tenants. One tenant died, and six were left homeless. There was a donation drop-off at Shafer Saloon. Though there was little in the GNC coffers, Natasha indicated she was expecting another donation from her company for her volunteer hours. Shelley made motion, Natasha seconded, to donate \$50 to each tenant and \$50 to the deceased tenant's family to help pay for funeral expenses.

### **Celebration of the Lakes**

There was discussion about getting other Club members involved and perhaps forming a sponsorship committee. Anyone involved in soliciting sponsorships would need to understand the Club's mission and deliver the right message. It was agreed to begin with a single sponsorship level due to logistical challenges in managing multiple levels. It was noted that sponsorship levels could always be changed as things evolved. Donations were currently accepted through the website via PayPal, but Natasha would

research the capabilities of Square. This topic would be added to the next Club agenda.

### **Sponsorship**

There was discussion on getting other Club members involved and perhaps form a sponsorship committee. Anyone involved in soliciting sponsorships will need to understand the form and foundation of the Club and deliver the right message. It was agreed to begin with a single sponsorship level due to logistical challenges with multiple levels. It was noted it could always be changed as things evolve. Donations are currently accepted through the website with Paypal but Natasha will research the capabilities of Square. This will be added to the next Club agenda.

### **Food Shelf Donations**

There was discussion on getting the rest of the food purchased and delivered to the food shelf.

### **Social Club Events**

There was discussion about what to do socially as a club. It would be added to the next Club meeting agenda to ask the members what they would like to do. A previous idea was to have refreshments after the meeting to encourage people to stay and mingle, but it was noted that most members had not yet been home from work and were eager to leave. It was agreed that socializing after road cleanups was fun, and there was an idea to do something after the meetings in the summer, perhaps tailgating.

### **Membership Fees**

The Club did not have a slush fund to pay for social events such as refreshments. The pros and cons of charging a membership fee were discussed, and it was decided not to charge membership at this time. The Club could look for fundraising events, such as a polar plunge, so donated funds would not be used for social events.

### **Membership Engagement**

There was discussion on how to engage more members. One suggestion was to showcase the fun the Club has at events by videoing for social media and to provide recaps of events at the Club meetings.

### **Annual Meeting**

Natahsa will put the PowerPoint together again and asked that information to be sent to her unformatted, and she will add to presentation.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Shelley Lindau

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