

## **Spoooner Area Chamber of Commerce**

### **General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2026**

**8:00 AM | Spoooner Health Classrooms A&B**

**Call to order:** Ted Schmitz, President - Ted Called the meeting to order at 8:02. Announced that he is again President of the Chamber board

**Introductions:** Each person will introduce themselves and what business they're representing

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Olson, Treasurer - Mark presented the treasurer's report.

**Executive Board Report:** Michelle Martin, Secretary - Michelle was absent Ted gave an overview of yesterday's report.

#### **Old Business:**

- Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Event (February 26, 2026) - Lisa reported that invitations will go out today. There will be prizes and raffles. Ted will give a presentation.
- Business After Five (January 22-Washburn Co. Humane Society; March-Economart) - Business after 5:00 - Washburn County Humane Society. They presented information about the event on the 22nd. Everyone goes home with a free cat! (not unless you want one). They will have refreshments and a tour. Kelsey and Lisa will create an event and post. Economart will have an event in March.

#### **New Business:**

- Food & Wine Tasting Beneficiary Applications (Deadline: February 1, 2026) - April 30th. Applications are still being accepted until Feb. 1st. Ted explained the process for volunteers. Talked about last year's success.
- Jack O' Lantern Festival Planning - Ted: We are planning for next fall. Maybe the weekend before Cranberry Fest. Nothing is definite yet. Still in the planning stages. Ted talked about how the Festival was run in the past and the events that occurred. It was put on hold last year due to lack of volunteers. Hopefully this year we will be able to get more help. Rails on Trails wants to take over the Zombie Run. Lakeland will also have events. Humane Society will also be involved. Help for the event is welcome!

#### **Committee Reports:**

- Marketing Committee (Kelsy) - Working on Spoooner Book with N of 8. Designing through Canva. Cover photo has been selected. Lisa will help with the membership directory. Photo shoot last Monday at City Park by Kim Kalan. Worked with Rails on Trails to get photos of winter events. Meeting schedule on 1/30 to go over Chamber website.
- Membership Committee (Bryanna & Lisa B.) - Bryanna: At the last meeting we talked about business after 5, upcoming party, working on membership renewals. Talked about extending the general meeting for any specific questions "Coffee and Combo". Talked about a new name for Business after 5. Maybe "Chamber Connections with....." so that businesses can choose whatever time they want to do it.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- Food & Wine Tasting (April 30, 2026)

**Other Business:** None

#### **Member Updates:**

- State Farm: check your insurance policies to make sure that they are up to date. Talk with your agent so that you are not lacking coverage.
- Anderson Hager & Moe: tax season
- Spooner Mercantile: 30% off. Everything on sale
- Spooner Health: Gift shop reopening from 10-1. Still on track with building updates. Primary care will be a 50/50 joint venture with Tamarack Health in a portion of the new addition. The remainder will be Specialty Clinic, Wound Care, etc. which will allow the Emergency Department and Rehabilitation Services to expand. Women's Wellness Night is coming up on March 24 and will include women's health presentations, tables, advance directive assistance, hands-only CPR training, appetizers, mocktails.
- City of Spooner: talked about Semiquincentennial group. Meetings have been happening. Forrest is representing Chamber. Planning on small events throughout the year to help celebrate. Will use State of WI 250th logo. Many events are going on throughout the country. January 31 snow sculpture contest 10-3. Mayor will judge. Food truck and hot chocolate. Ice fishing contest near Tony's sometime in February. Will use the WI logo and add a flag to it. The Mayor's Ball was held years ago. Now it will be the Liberty Ball Oct. 17th. Pig roast on July 4th. How to help with Heritage Days. Next meeting Feb. 3rd. Library will do different reading events throughout the year, scavenger hunt. Looking at different housing strategies for tourists and workers. In 2026 Comprehensive plan is due to be updated. There will be info sent out to the community to respond. Wash Co. Economic Devel. Working with WI Entrepreneurs to help businesses develop and connect with resources. Partnered with Spooner and Essentia Health to install pickle ball courts at College Street Park. Working with DNR on grant to replace water main on Harmon st. Working with BID to look at Walnut St as its own zoning district.
- Humane Society: half off on all animals ends at the end of Jan. Pets come with neutering and chips. Two for one specials in place. Cats are indoor cats. The Board met and talked about a vaccination clinic in May and October. Rabies, microchip etc. Nominal cost. Last May approx. 70 families participated. Working to expand the quarantine dog section. Fences need repairs. Working with Health dept. on quarantine if people can't afford it. Hoping to educate surrounding communities. The County is supposed to help with the costs of dog bites expenses from strays. Hoping to help provide more information on what to do with a stray, dog bite, how many dogs you can have etc. Currently it's 2 within the city of Spooner. 2025 was facility improvements. 2026, working with other communities to develop common practices.
- Lakeland: Bryanna: Annual Tastefully Together Fundraiser at Hunt Hill 2/20 5-9 p.m. Auctions, raffle, game, music. Tickets include a drink ticket. Fundraiser to help offset the decrease in funding for non-profits. Bryanna is the main contact for the event.

**Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:53 am.**

**2026 GENERAL MEETINGS:**

January 7 – Classrooms A&B

February 4 – Classrooms A&B

March 4 – Classrooms A&B

\*April 8 – Classrooms A&B (Changed due to Spring Break for Spooner)

May 6 – Classrooms A&B

June 3 – Classrooms A&B

July 1 – Classrooms A&B

August 5 – Classrooms A&B

September 2 – Classrooms A&B

October 7 – Classrooms A&B

November 4 – Classrooms A&B

December 2 – Classrooms A&B