

Spooner Area Chamber of Commerce

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

8:00 AM | Spooner Health Classrooms A&B

Call to order: Ted Schmitz, President - Ted called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

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

Treasurer's Report: Mark Olson, Treasurer - Michelle gave the overview in Mark's absence.

Executive Board Report: Michelle Martin, Secretary - Michelle gave an overview of the board meeting.

Old Business:

- Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Event Recap - Great event; nice venue; well organized; members mentioned the food was good and it was a good time
- Chamber Connections Events:
 - March 26, 5-7 pm: Chamber Connections with Schmitz's Economart & North of Eight Design & Marketing
 - May TBD: Chamber Connections with Palace Theatre and Jesters
 - July 22: Chamber Connections with Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum
- Jack O' Lantern Festival Planning - Thinking about the last weekend in September; Ted would like to see the pumpkin roll come back; possibly multi-day event; St. Francis-tie in their Oktoberfest event; hoping to bring back obstacle course and bungee game; scarecrow contest; Rails on Trails-Zombie Run

New Business:

- Personnel Committee Update - Hired Jessica Mechtel; Michelle and Kelsy meeting to go over onboarding process
- Spooner Book Update - There are a few ads left to create; hope to have final review by the end of the week; printing 15,000
- Welcome New Members: Walk to End Alzheimer's, Dead Eye Construction, Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital, Angela Winton-Roe, Arrow Building Center, Coldwell Banker

Committee Reports:

- Marketing Committee (Kelsy) - Updated on Spooner book, website proposal
- Membership Committee (Bryanna & Lisa B.) - Discussed membership event, reviewed chamber member list, talked about reaching out to the Trego area businesses; still in the works is our Coffee and Convo events; Emily G. recommended reaching out to the Burnett Co/Spooner businesses

Upcoming Events:

- Food & Wine Tasting (April 30, 2026) - Food & Wine is coming up; group is meeting today; location is the Burch Barn; Humane Society is the beneficiary; Lisa has brochures, posters, and mailing under control
- Jack's a Hack Golf Outing (June 17, 2026) - Mark is the lead on this; would like to see more involvement on the holes with businesses/organizations

Other Business:

- First Dollar Visits: If you know of any new businesses or businesses that have changed hands, please let Bryanna & Lisa know so they can schedule a First Dollar Visit. They do not need to be chamber members to qualify for a First Dollar Visit..

Member Updates:

- Spooner Health - Women's Wellness Night is coming up on Tuesday, March 24; Blood drive on Thursday, March 26
- State Farm - Every person with an active auto policy in 2025 will be getting a rebate this summer
- North of Eight - Putting on the Northwoods Marketing Summit on April 16 from 12-5 pm in Siren. Geared towards small business, entrepreneur, and small marketing teams. Cost is \$25; sponsorship opportunities are available; Two positions are available: Junior Web Press Developer and a cold-caller; both are remote and likely contract opportunities, reach out to Emily if you're interested.
- Spooner Mercantile - Prom is coming up on April 11 for Spooner, April 25 for Shell Lake; get your tuxedo rentals
- Lakeland Family Resource Center - Thank you to everyone who went to the Tastefully Together fundraiser at Hunt Hill; made a huge impact on Lakeland and their mission; will be at Women's Wellness Night - come see them there; Easter Egg Hunt is coming up at City Park on March 28 (close to 10,000 eggs!); accepting candy donations for the Easter eggs or would like to donate time to stuff eggs; Lakeland provides drug and alcohol free events; April will have several events for National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.
- Rodeo Parade - Registration is open for the parade; find it on SpoonerRodeo.com website. Working with Nick to try and bring in the National Guard band; working on a fly-over
- Holden Insurance - IMT has a community contest going on; \$500-\$1,000 donation for beautification, mentorship programs, etc. If you are a nonprofit or have a project that you are working on, reach out to Christine.
- Semiquincentennial - Liberty Ball will be October 17; Dean's List will be playing at the ball; appetizers will be served - find the event on the Facebook page; Window decorations downtown, possibly over Memorial Day weekend; Passport to Spooner program - would like to bring that back and theme it to the Semiquincentennial; discussing community pig roast for 4th of July; Liberty Bell scavenger hunt with the library; next meeting is Monday, April 13 at the Station
- Washburn Co. Humane Society - Vaccine clinic is coming up on May 2 from 10-2; if your critter needs a microchip or rabies booster shot, it's a great opportunity. Appointments are needed. Be sure to check to see if your pets' microchips are registered; WCAHS can scan for you or most vets.
- Palace Theater - Generosity Jam on April 12 benefitting Neighbor to Neighbor, 7 artists or bands from 1-4. Looking at free movies for kids as matinees; looking at doing a semiquincentennial patriotic and American movies for free; will be looking for some sponsors
- City of Spooner - Happy to report that the third donor has come through for the pickleball project and will be at College Street Park this summer (lights, parking, bathrooms)
- Economart - Dole Whip will be available temporarily; come to the Chamber Connections event to enjoy it
- Best Western - New 55" TVs have been installed

Adjourn: Mary/Emily made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 am. MC.

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