

**Spooner Area Chamber of Commerce**

**General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 2, 2026**

**8:00 AM | The Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center**

**Call to order:** Ted Schmitz, President - Ted called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Olson, Treasurer - Michelle gave an update on the Treasurer's report from the board meeting.

**Executive Board Report:** Michelle Martin, Secretary - Michelle reviewed the minutes from yesterday's board meeting.

**Old Business:**

- Chamber Connections Events:
  - September TBD - Railhouse Junction
  - December 16 - The Dock Coffee (5-7 pm)
- Text Message Communication Program - We are moving forward and will be launching the program this month.
- Spooner Semiquincentennial Update - Nick updated that there is a meeting at 5 pm tonight at the Spooner Civic Center. Working on Liberty Ball (October 17, 7-10 pm). Dean's List will be playing, event will be held in the ballroom at the civic center. Tickets will be sold via local businesses, limit of 250.

**New Business:**

- Welcome New Members:
- Board Member & Staff Recognition: No recognition this month

**Committee Reports:**

- Marketing Committee: Met on August 25; discussed Spooner book distribution, will be considering an updated design for Spooner book for 2027, discussed naming conventions for Jack Pine due to someone reaching out to Lisa, website update is going well (design approved and working on interior pages), Google ads (Michelle from Advocate) will be running Fall and Winter campaigns, social media is going well, room tax budget will be presented to the city in September.
- Membership Committee: Met on August 26; discussed first dollar visits, holding off on Coffee & Convo idea, discussed upcoming Chamber Connections, discussed chamber dollars for employee Christmas gifts, discussed social media posts.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Jack O' Lantern Festival (October 9-10, 2026) - Street closures are completed, draft poster was distributed, looking for volunteers for the event, sponsor forms are coming out soon, hoping to keep the entire kid zone free for families but will be based on how much sponsorship we can raise.
- Ladies Night (November 23, 2026) - Jorgan is the chair and planning will begin soon.

**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: Blood Drive - September 24; Flu Shot Clinics - September 24, October 5 & 14 at Washburn Co. Fairgrounds; WashCo Wellness Challenge for September - Eat the Rainbow, see how many different colors of fruits & vegetables you can eat this month.
- Tim Reedy State Farm: Life Insurance Awareness Month is September, it's a good time to review your policy and make sure your policy is appropriate for your current season of life. We're happy to sit down with you and review/educate you with what you have.
- Lakeland FRC: This weekend is Lake Run, 9-mile run around Shell Lake and Fastest Kids Race; Fall Newsletter was distributed; BooHaha is coming up in October at the WC Fairgrounds (attendance is around 600); Santa's Workshop will be held in December again
- Northwood Tech College: Students are back and enrollment is trending flat to slight increase this year; Nursing is typically our most popular, followed by Welding and Truck Driving.
- City of Spooner: Pickleball courts opened a couple weeks ago (Playtime Scheduler is the app to reserve the courts) - the first night they opened there were 20 people there; Farmer's Market group is working with the city to utilize the roundhouse for a Winter Bazaar.
- ICCPA: Commercial print has increased with White Birch closing; publish the yellow paper and Leader; happy to help with printing and advertising needs.
- Schmitz's Economart: Mums are out in front of the store, pumpkins have arrived, so come pick up your fall decor.
- Leadership Washburn County: Currently three applicants short for making the program happen this year. Please consider participating or sending a team member through the program.
- Jesters/Theatre: Coyote movie is at the theatre, some drink specials to go with it; Jester's has pizza and trivia night on Thursday nights (individual or teams)

**Adjourn: Mary/Jamie made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 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 8 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center

August 5 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center

September 2 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center

October 7 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center

November 4 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center

December 2 – Depot Room at Spooner Civic Center