Spooner Area Chamber of Commerce

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

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

Call to order: Ted Schmitz, President - Ted called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

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

Treasurer's Report: Mark Olson, Treasurer - Michelle gave the financial report for Mark.

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

Old Business:

- Chamber Connections Events:
  - December 16 - The Dock Coffee (5-7 pm)
  - January TBD - Crossroads of the North Meats & Cellar
- Text Message Communication Program - Moving forward with a program and will be built out over the next month or so.
- 2027 Membership Drive - All of the membership materials went out in October; 40 renewals have come in so far; reminder will be going out today. Renewals must be in by December 1st to make it in the Spooner Book.

New Business:

- Welcome to New Members:
  - Wobblin' Duck
  - Crossroads of the North Meats & Cellar
- Spooner Glows Holiday Lights Contest - Michelle shared the poster for the holiday lights contest. Posters are available at the chamber office. Information will be posted on the website soon.
- Jack O' Lantern Festival Recap - Great weather, turnout, volunteers, etc. It was a fantastic event with lots of positive comments. The great pumpkin roll was the highlight of the event. Shout out to the planning committee. Huge thank you to the community volunteers as well. Next year will be October 8-9, 2027.
- Board Elections (December) - Coming up at the December meeting. Three seats are up for renewal, Emily Gall and Michelle Martin are re-running, but Jorgan Staupe will be stepping down. Mary Benson will chair elections. Interested parties should email info@spoonerchamber.org or contact Mary.

Committee Reports:

- Marketing Committee: Met on October 26 at the Chamber office; Finalized ad in the Washburn Co. Guide, reviewed room tax expenditures, finalized the RFP for the Spooner Book, discussed ad sales and member list needs for Spooner book, discussed website final review and launch, Jessica shared social media plans including spotlight reels, discussed Ladies Night marketing needs, reviewed local marketing budget, and brainstormed a holiday light contest.
- Membership Committee: Met on October 28 at The Dock Coffee; talked about first dollar visits, discussed bringing back Lunch & Learns (Topics: AI, Scams & Internet Safety), Chamber Connections

2027 sign-up is ready and will be on the website soon, reviewing memberships as they are coming in, discussed radio advertising. There is room for additional advertisers in the Spooner Book.

Upcoming Events:

- Ladies Night (November 23, 2026) - Monday before Thanksgiving (November 23) from 2-8 pm. If you need posters, Lisa has them on the table or at the chamber office. If you have questions on the event, reach out to Clarissa or Jorgan at Staupe Computers.

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: Volunteers of Spooner Health Gift Shop will be hosting their Christmas Open House on November 19 from 8a-4p and November 20 from 8a-2p. The Nutman Company will also be on site during those hours with over 200 varieties of snack mixes, chocolates, nuts, and candies. The Volunteers are also holding their 36th Annual Love Light Ceremony on Monday, December 7. To purchase a light in honor of someone, visit SpoonerHealth.com/love-light or stop by the hospital reception desk.
- Spooner Mercantile: Storm Creek and Ice Bug Boots will be present at Ladies Night with their merchandise. Also has the new Brooks 18 Christmas edition in stock.
- Tim Reedy State Farm: Looking for an additional agent team member. If you know of anyone looking to start a career, you don't need to be licensed and they will train. Contact Kelly if you're interested.
- Lakeland Family Resource Center: They are in need of children's books; launching Reading Roots Parent Cafe - scheduled January-April; Santa's Workshop will be in December again (lots of games, stations, letters to Santa, cookie decorating, gift from Santa). Working on revamping the kids library at Lakeland. Gift books need to be new; books for the playroom and parent cafe can be used.
- Washburn Co. Humane Society: Participating at Ladies Night doing a cookie sale at Wobblin' Duck. Excited about the holiday light contest from the BID perspective. BID is working on increasing the lighting in Centennial Park and at the end of Railroad Park. Working on getting a larger real tree for Centennial Park.
- Don Johnson Motors: Tire sale and clearance push on 2026 across all brands; discounting some trucks $5-6,000.
- Chieftain Wild Rice: Two new products - Autumn Harvest (carrot/celery blend), Broken Wild Rice blend (lower cost; faster cooking time)
- Railhouse Junction: Meat raffle for Viking/Packer Game on November 15th supporting Lakeland Family Resource Center.

Adjourn: Emily/Mary made a motion to adjourn 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 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