Natural Health Network
May 22, 7PM
Woodside Village
Traverse City, MI

Those in attendance:

Christy Baum	Heidi Kistler	Georgia Knight
Julie Martin	Tonja Carlson	Judy LaCross
Keli MacIntosh	Bev Heinz	

For those who have been keeping track of our meetings, the meetings in April were for the Expo committee members in preparation for that event. So you didn't miss a general membership meeting. There was more than enough going on to keep the board and committee members busy!

Heidi started the meeting by giving the treasurer's report. The Expo was profitable so we have a little nest egg to work with through the upcoming year. Expected expenses will be another printing of our brochures and the directory (after the new members get their information and pictures to Heidi); space rental for the larger meetings with speakers, and fees for completing the 501c3.

If you have not given Heidi the information you would like in the member's directory please send it to her as soon as possible (hkistler@centurytel.net).

Heidi has made some changes to the website. You can now promote any of your businesses classes or events on the site. Also, there is a spot where members can list specials they are willing to offer to other members. These additions will help us become more familiar with what we each have to offer and stimulate referrals among our members.

Georgia gave a report on the Expo and discussed the pros and cons of the event. It was decided that we should try to have next year's Expo at the Civic Center again and try to secure a date at the same time next year. All of the vendors who returned the evaluation questionnaire said they would like to be a part of Expo 2009.

We would like to double the size of the Expo next year. Georgia has already begun a list of other potential vendors. If you know of anyone who might be interested in having a booth next year, have them contact Georgia at g.knight@att.net. We would like each member to help create a list of people we can contact with vendor applications next spring. We also plan to widen the scope of professionals represented. A healthy lifestyle is dependent on good soil, organic produce, non-toxic building and manufacturing, and "green" living; so think out of the box as you look for people to invite to join us. The person who brings the most new vendors to next year's Expo will get their Expo booth or membership renewal for free. We will let you know the date as soon as it is scheduled.

Keli announced that the board has decided to expand to include some non-officer members. We will be taking nominations for board members until June 15th. These people must be willing to commit to regular meeting attendance, to working as committee chairpersons, and to represent the organization at public events. Send the nominee names and credentials to Keli at camilek@aol.com. The newly formed board will be announced at the June meeting.

Christy discussed a problem that has arisen with the movie nights. Though those who attended have enjoyed the evenings, it was the general consensus that this type of event would be best on

a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon; people were just too tired to enjoy any discussion after the movie was over. It was brought to our attention that several other groups are doing the same thing and it might be best for us to join with another group. Please share any thoughts you might have on this matter.

A very important change in the structure of our meetings is that we will begin having Networking speakers each time we meet. So, beginning in June, we'll have a short business meeting followed by 2-3 member speakers. If you want to be one of the presenters, contact me with a brief synopsis of what you will talk about. You will have 25 minutes to speak and answer any questions from the group.

We are looking for another place for our meetings; one large enough to accommodate our growth. Keli will look into using the lower level of Horizon Books. It is centrally located and has a beverage bar. Does anyone have any other ideas?

We would also like to begin a series of lectures for the community in the fall. If you would be interested in being a guest speaker, or can suggest someone, please let me know. The talk should be about an hour in length and present an educational format for the community. More information on this will be provided as the series develops.

The NHN will be taking part in the National Cherry Festival Health and Wellness Day on Monday, July 7th. Our booth will provide general information about the NHN and allow members to present themselves to the community. Any member can sign up for 2-3 hour shifts or work the entire day. More on this will be provided at the June meeting. We thought it might be a good idea to have a hand out of healthy recipes that include cherries. Tonja has volunteered to compile the recipes, so send any submissions to her at ttmnc6@yahoo.com.

Does anyone want to be involved in an NHN activity at Friday Night Live?

The meeting dates for the summer are: June 26th, July 24th, and Aug 28th. Please mark your calendars!