

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Merri Sevey, President, at 6:03 p.m.

The attendees for this meeting were: Daryl Steinhagen, Shellie Callan, Judy Meyerhofer, Merri Sevey, Mike Dittmar, Lara Walters, Denise Anderson, Ed Amstutz, Lisa Walters, Cheryl Rife, Kathy Wand, Bob Dittmar, Tammy Trebian, Anna Pintozzi and Peg Francomb.

The Secretary's report was approved by Ed Amstutz, with a second by Judy Meyerhofer. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report stated there is \$12,780.25 in the account. This was approved by Tammy Trebian, seconded by Judy Meyerhofer. Motion carried.

The Village of Elizabeth stated there has been a request to "de-annex" Santa Ana. This was tabled until the next meeting, as doing this would affect the TIF revenue. Mike stated that it's time to have a "mapping coordinator" meeting. There will be a meeting July 29th to discuss annexing Betsy Drive into the city limits. This meeting will also have discussion regarding Business Development District option. The Telegraph Herald will be doing an article about Farmers Market, featuring Elizabeth. Rental properties haven't really taken off yet, but a couple of listings have been added. There will be a restaurant going in across from the Philip 66 gas station.

Marketing has been updating the Chamber website calendar. Please see the calendar for upcoming events.

Tourism said the "flower pots" look good. They are creating a "bucket list" of activities to do in Elizabeth.

Eco-Development has some money to spend on projects, so they are looking into various ideas.

Gear will have a booth at the Garlic Festival. Dance Classes will be starting at the community building, in the fall.

OLD BUSINESS

CVB visited some businesses in Elizabeth and Woodbine, and took some "unique" pictures. There is a new B&B on Derinda Rd, called "Derinda House" and should be open by this fall. Community Outreach held a meeting and it went well. There will be a digital "walking tour" map to see on the website. Elizabeth is listed as one of the top 4 visited pages on VisitGalena.org. There will be a bus tour coming to Elizabeth August 14th to tour the museums and do some shopping in town.

Paint the Barnyard went well, even though it was very hot that day. The attendance was down just a little bit from last year.

Bingo should be ready to go at the fair, although some more volunteers would be great. It will run from 1-6, Saturday.

First Fridays will have a meeting August 17th.

Garlic Festival is August 15th. There will be vendors, 2 bands, and much more. Volunteers are needed to help with this event.

Thompson Prison will be holding another session in October. The Chamber will have a booth at this to promote Elizabeth.

Visitors Guide will have Hanover in it as well as Elizabeth. There will be a meeting August 20th to get an update on gathering information for the booklet. All information should be submitted by December to go to print.

NEW BUSINESS

Chamber shirts are available if you would like to purchase one. Contact Merri Sevey for shirt options.

Chamber after Hours is something that members might want to start doing. It would be on Thursdays, from 6-8 p.m. and maybe once a quarter. You could "showcase" your business with snacks, etc. so members can come and spend time in your business.

The Village has "Elizabeth" hats for sale. Contact the Village office, if interested.

For the parade, any help would be appreciated. The Illinois State Bank is sponsoring it, so please thank them if you see them.

Jo Daviess Republican Committee will be having a meeting August 14th and tickets are available. They would like to give away a gift basket so if you would like to donate something, please contact Cheryl Rife.

Business Development District is an option for gathering funds for projects around town. This would be an additional sales tax that would be ear-marked for certain projects, such as the sidewalks in town. Please attend the meeting July 29th for more information.

Daryl Steinhagen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Tammy Trebian. The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday, August 27th at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Municipal Building.