

## Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President, Merri Sevey, at 6:00 p.m.

The attendees for this meeting were: Shellie Callan, Merri Sevey, Judy Meyerhofer, Norma Schwirtz, Tammy Trebian, Lara Walters, Joe Ambrosia, Laszlo Martin, Kristen Patterson, Laurel Eshelman, Jonna Stayner Dittmar, Carol Schwerdtfeger, Skip Schwerdtfeger, Helen Kilgore, Chris Hamilton, and Lisa Walters.

The Secretary's report was approved by Judy, seconded by Tammy. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report stated there is \$8,949.15 in the account, approved by Tammy, seconded by Judy. Motion carried.

Scarecrow Festival stated that there needs to be a list of participants next year, so no one gets overlooked for judging.

Veteran's Day will have pamphlets printed. Dittmar Farms is donating the donuts. The Chamber will purchase the evergreen wreath. Coffee and donuts will be served from 10-11 a.m. in the meeting room of the old high school, with the ceremony taking place in the old high school gym.

Christmas in the Village will meet directly after this meeting, but during the meeting, Lara stated that she looked into getting the trolley from Galena. She will do more research on this for pricing, timeframe, etc. There was discussion of it picking up at the depot, fort, and bank parking lot. The Santa Dash will start at the noon whistle. After discussion, Lara made a motion to give \$100 to the Historical Society to buy candy for Santa to pass out. Lisa seconded, motion carried. Garland is being sold by the NW IL Hospice. An email will be sent out, please contact Merri if you want to order anything.

2018 Sesquicentennial – not discussed at this time.

Flower pots are still out, but will probably be brought in by this weekend, due to the cold weather. There will be discussion with the Village about watering them regularly, maybe on a volunteer, rotating basis. November 20<sup>th</sup> the Christmas snowflakes will be hung.

Information segments was discussed of possibly having 10-15 minute sections during the regular meeting, then if anyone is interested in those topics, more time will be allotted outside of the regular meeting to meet and discuss.

Advertising Campaign went over very well. All the businesses from last year signed up again, as well as some new businesses. There was discussion of paying annual dues all at once, in January, instead of having them spread out throughout the year, to help with the bookkeeping end of things. There was added discussion of including the advertising campaign and the flower pots in on the "all at once" payment. After discussion, Norma made a motion to have annual dues, advertising, and flower pots paid all at once, Kristen seconded, motion carried. An email will be sent out explaining this and how you can pay for each/all that you choose.

2018 Visitors Guide – was not discussed at this time, other than pictures are being requested.

Village of Elizabeth – was not discussed at this time.

GEAR stated that they have a new secretary, Ann Leonard. Funky Monkey had good attendance, with approx. 150 people attending. They will plan this event for next year as well. They are considering a golf outing fundraiser, possibly during the PTO craft fair weekend. There was discussion to offer a GEAR scholarship of \$500.00 each year. The Salsa fundraiser forms will be handed out around Halloween and due back November 27<sup>th</sup>. There were 34 girls signed up for volleyball. Youth Basketball open gym will start early December. The tentative date for the Alumni Basketball will be December 30<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion of using \$500 to purchase a mobile defibrillator. The next GEAR meeting will be Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for anyone interested in attending.

Eco-Devo is supporting a grant that the Village will be submitting for the city sidewalks. The Fair board is looking at a way to make outdoor bathroom facilities, and GEAR is helping with this project. There was discussion of possibly going to a programmable lock system instead of keys for the community building doors.

Elizabeth Food Basket had their freezer go out, again. They are looking into what might be causing this to happen, and how to remedy it. They have served over 42 families this month. There will be a drawing to give away turkey dinner tickets, and also a raffle to give away a Santa wreath.

### OLD BUSINESS

The Fort had 75-100 visitors for their "Raise the Roof Celebration" ceremony of the newly restored Circa 1830 log cabin.

Garlic Fest is looking into next years' event already and how to make it an even bigger event.

Fiber Optic wants to make sure you know you can still sign up for this to show interest in getting it in Elizabeth.

Tammy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Judy. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.