

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President, Merri Sevey, at 6:02 p.m.

The attendees were: Shellie Callan, Merri Sevey, Peg Francomb, Judy Meyerhofer, Norma Schwirtz, Dan Marcure, Todd Tunks, Andrea Young, Jesse Shekleton, Steve Dittmar, Mary Katos, Kristen Patterson, Sam Stoddard, Lara Walters, Pastor Mike Nesbitt, Carol Schwerdtfeger, Tammy Trebian, Cheryl Rife, Anna Pintozi, Kathy Wand, Lisa Walters, Robert Dittmar, and Joe Ambrosia.

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

The Treasurer's report stated there is \$9,308.41 in the account, approved by Judy, seconded by Peg. Motion carried.

Sand Prairie gave a presentation on bringing Fiber to Elizabeth. They discussed how the program would work, what it would cost, and approximately when it may be installed. They just finished in Galena, and have other towns that they will be doing as well. It is basically a "first come basis" of how many people are interested in having it. Please contact Sand Prairie at Jo-Carroll Energy for more information, or visit www.connectSP.com.

Garlic Fest donated a check of \$1,100.00 to The Elizabeth Food Basket.

Music in the Park went well. There was a good crowd, and great band. There was discussion of possibly having it on a different date next year. There will be further discussions at upcoming meetings.

Scarecrow Festival will be installing corn stalks at 4:00 p.m. this Sunday. Please help if you can. It does not take very long to put them up. The meeting place is Dittmar's Orchard Station in town. They are requesting that you bring a broom along to help with the cleanup.

Paint the Barnyard would like to give their organization's money to the Chamber for now because they do not plan on having any runs for a while.

Christmas in the Village will be a week later this year, so it will be the 1st Saturday of December. There was discussion of having the Santa Dash at noon, with the noon whistle starting the race.

Sesquicentennial will be having some meetings to organize this event. If you would like to be part of this committee, please speak to Mike Dittmar or Merri Sevey. The goal is to raise \$20,000 for this event. There was discussion that they would like to, possibly, have this on Labor Day Weekend.

Flower Pots will be taken down the second week of October. Until then, please keep watering them. There was discussion of planting some mums in them. There was also discussion of finding a couple of volunteers for watering the pots next year, or have a specific schedule of who would water.

Highland Comm. College is looking for a volunteer to be on a committee for their Lifelong Learning Program. Carol stated that she and Skip could possibly attend these meetings. If you would also like to be on this committee, please contact Merri Sevey.

Advertising Campaign turned out very well. There has been \$1,260.00 generated, so far, toward advertising for the upcoming calendar events. You can still turn in your \$60.00, to Lisa, if you would like to be in this campaign. A new Chamber rack card has been created and was passed around at the meeting for opinions. There are still some changes to make on it, but it is looking very nice.

Village of Elizabeth was not discussed at this time.

GEAR said that Garlic Fest went very well for them. They would like to suggest having the entertainment go possibly an hour longer next year. They will be having a booth at Mallardfest, will also be having the Wrestling fundraiser in October. They are looking at ways to create incentives for volunteering at their events. Volleyball is starting in November, Soccer started September 10, and the salsa fundraiser will be in November. Erin Keyser resigned as secretary, so they are looking for someone to take that position. Please see Jeremy Knauer, Mark Wachter, or Cathy Holland if you would like fill this position.

Eco-Devo/Fair Board said that a new webpage is being added to the town page. The Pharmacy is coming to town, for sure, but will take approximately 1 year before it will open. It will be in the old Baseball card store. The Health Department is still researching the possibility of coming to Elizabeth. The Fair Board is not meeting until October.

Elizabeth Food Basket stated that Stephenson Service Co. donated \$250.00 to their organization. Schapville Shepherd of Hills donated 15 tickets to their dinner, and the Methodist Church donated some tickets to their dinner as well. Dollar General will be doing another food drive. They have gained a couple more volunteers for this organization. They are currently developing a webpage. Schwans and Amazon Smiles will be having fund drives again as well.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Judy Meyerhofer said she contacted Aldi's Food Store about possibility coming to Elizabeth. If you would like to see them come here, please go online and submit a request.

Stockton Chamber is having a meeting October 10, at 6:00 p.m. at Main Street Party to present Strategies for Exiting Your Business.

The Telegraph Herald spoke to "women" business owners in town and will be putting an article in the paper.

OPEN FORUM

Tammy Trebian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Judy seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next Chamber meeting will be Thursday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m.