

## Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2015

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

The attendees for this meeting were: Shellie Callan, Terry Whalen, Kathy Gable, Dee Dee Aadson, Judy Meyerhofer, Ed Amstutz, Betsy Kaage, Peggy Francomb, Pat Schaible, Tammy Trebian, Merri Sevey, Lisa Walters, Denise Anderson, Lara Walters, and Cheryl Rife.

The Secretary's report had one revision: For the First Fridays, July 3<sup>rd</sup> the businesses will not be open late due to fireworks, etc. The minutes were approved by Tammy Trebian, seconded by Judy Meyerhofer. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report stated that there is \$11,707.23 in the checking. This was approved by Judy Meyerhofer, seconded by Ed Amstutz. Motion carried.

Village of Elizabeth was given by Denise Anderson. The budget is done, except for building expenses. Dollar General has started to move dirt, with opening date to be October 1<sup>st</sup>, tentatively. The Village is submitting a list of all rental properties for employees of the prison, so if you would like to have something listed, please contact Denise Anderson. The Village would like to have a "business development district tax." Merri Sevey said that maybe the village should talk about this tax more, so everyone is aware of it. This would be an increase in sales tax.

Marketing has been updating the chamber website.

Festivals said that everything is going well for the Color/ Barnyard Run.

Tourism needs to replace some of the pots, as some have broken. They want to order more rack cards, also, but need some new pictures, so if you have any to submit please email them to a board member.

Eco-Development stated about Dollar General.

Recreation said that GEAR will be helping with the Corkless Wine Festival, Saturday in Galena, having adult/children human foosball at the fair in July, and helping with the Midwest Garlic Festival in August. Businesses may sponsor to have a banner hung at the baseball fields and/or in the old high school gym. Please contact Mark Wachter or Jeremy Knauer if you are interested.

### OLD BUSINESS

CVB stated that they are talking about making changes to their resolution, they are holding a community outreach meeting in July, which is open to the public. They are able to do blog posts for you if you are interested.

Paint the Barnyard was previously discussed.

Bingo will be at the fair this year, and will be Saturday afternoon.

First Fridays was already discussed, with July 3<sup>rd</sup> not having businesses open late.

Spring Fling went well. The weather was very good. The River Ridge FFA did the petting zoo, and did very well. The Chamber voted to donate \$200.00 to them for doing this. The vendors/flea market did well, the cost for the flea market vendors may be decreased next year. There were 2 porta pottys and there was discussion that one of them should be placed on Main Street somewhere next year, instead of both of them down by the bounce houses. Some people requested that the garage sale maps be made again.

Midwest Garlic Festival was not discussed at this time.

Thompson Prison had a reminder of the job fair being at River Ridge School this Saturday from 9:00 am to noon. Volunteers are asked to help with this if you can.

Village Voices stated that they will need pictures and all text information in by the end of this year if we want the booklets to be printed next year.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There was a request of maybe the Chamber funding an Elizabeth Statue that David Seagraves would build. But after discussion, it was decided that the Chamber does not have the funds at this time to do this.

CVB/Sales Marketing said that the Galena.org/Elizabeth has a welcoming page. They would like to expand their board to 11 members, so if you are interested in being on their board, please contact the CVB.

Visit Galena had some information from various other communities. Anyone can attend these meetings, and they are held monthly. Some discussion was "your village" information, "Viking River Cruises" to tour the Mississippi River, possible "floating on water," Hanover all-town garage sale, NW IL Art Festival coming up, business internship possibility, Americorp possibility, Agri-Tourism possibility, and 6-7 day Bike Race Among Towns possibility.

Lamer's Tour and Trail will be in town August 14<sup>th</sup> and will be visiting all the museums, as well as shopping in town.

Something Special announced she is closing her store by the end of December, so watch for posted sales.

Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a "celebration" thanking Diane Sipiera and Pat Tierney for their service on the Chamber Board. This will be at Jugs at 6:00 p.m.

Lara Walters made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Tammy Trebian. The meeting ended at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Municipal Building.