

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2015

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

The attendees for this meeting were: Shellie Callan, Judy Meyerhofer, Mary Katos, Pastor Mike Nesbit, Daryl Steinhagen, Ed Amstutz, Betsy Kaage, Lisa Walters, Peggy Francomb, Bob Dittmar, Lara Walters, Cheryl Rife, Tammy Trebian, Patsy Schaible, and John Scott.

The Secretary's report had one correction. For the BDD, the sales tax increase is .50%, not 25% as stated in the September meeting minutes. The corrected minutes were approved by Ed Amstutz, with a second by Daryl Steinhagen. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report stated there is \$14,839.59 in the checking account. Judy Meyerhofer made a motion to approve the report, with a second by Daryl Steinhagen. Motion carried.

John Scott, from Jo Carroll Energy, gave a presentation about energy efficient audits that can be done at your business or home. Contact Jo Carroll Energy if you are interested.

Village of Elizabeth News said that the new street, going into Dollar General, will be named FDR Ct. The Dollar General is having a "Grand Opening" tomorrow, Sat. 24th at 7:45 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

Marketing will be placing ads in the newspapers about the Dollar General grand opening. If you have an event coming up, please email this information to Shellie Callan so it can be entered onto the Chamber Website calendar.

Tourism is in need of volunteers. If you have any time to spare, please contact Cheryl Rife or Lara Walters.

Gear said that the Funky Munky event went well. Attendance was down just a little from last year. They have approved their new annual lease with the Village for the old high school gym usage. Approximately \$5200 will be used to purchase volleyball equipment. They also will help with the purchase of the lights for the park. Their "not-for-profit" status has been approved. Garlic Festival went well, and is scheduled, tentatively, for next year August 13th and 14th. They are looking into possibly making an ice rink at the bb field at the park. More information will be coming.

OLD BUSINESS

CVB said the next community outreach program will be in Warren, Nov. 4th at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting, then, will be in Galena, and they will discuss if this program has been effective. They are close to hiring a new Sales Director, more information to come.

The bus tour group that came to town went very well. Hopefully, this is a good sign that more bus tour groups will come.

Veterans Day will be November 11th, at 11:00 a.m. of the old high school gym.

Festivals said the scarecrow event went well. They would like more scarecrows to be made and maybe brought into town to have sitting around next year.

1st Fridays said the car show did not go over very well. They will work on advertising earlier for this the next time.

Visitors Guide Booklet is gathering information. Nov. 16th at Jugs, at 6:30 p.m. will be the next meeting. Please attend if you can.

NEW BUSINESS

Dollar General is having their Grand Opening, Sat. Oct 24th at 7:45 a.m. Please attend if you can.

Garlic Festival went very well. They gave a donation of \$1,000 to the Chamber. After discussion, Bob Dittmar made a motion to give \$500.00 of this to the Elizabeth Fair Board as a thank you for use of their chairs, bleachers, etc. Daryl Steinhagen seconded, motion carried. CVB stated that this event should qualify for a grant, so research will be done on that.

Christmas in Elizabeth will be the 1st Sat. of December. Crafters may be asked to attend. A committee needs to be formed to help with this event. If you would like to help, please contact a Chamber member. The 1st meeting will be Nov. 16th at Jugs at 7:00 p.m.

Tax Exempt Status is still being researched. Betty Roliard has volunteered her time to help with this.

Professional Behavior, Merri would like to thank everyone for being helpful/professional regarding all the various issues that the town has dealt with in the last couple of weeks.

Ed Amstutz spoke a little about the Team Galena Jo Daviess County meeting that he attended. County representatives were there speaking about business and economic development issues and concerns.

Daryl Steinhagen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ed Amstutz. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next Chamber meeting will be November, 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Municipal Building.