

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2016

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

The attendees for this meeting were: Shellie Callan, Betsy Kaage, Amy Curio, Denise Anderson, Missy Dalgarn, Kristen Patterson, Brooke Besler, Kate Brondyke, Mary Katos, Pastor Mike Nesbit, Lara Walters, Cheryl Rife, Kathy Wand, Laszlo Marton, Mike Dittmar, Lisa Walters, and Merri Sevey.

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

The Treasurer's report stated a balance of \$12,238.08. This was approved by Judy, seconded by Cheryl. Motion passed.

Kate Brondyke presented her "Simply Be Massage" business at Hairspray Salon. She will be doing some promos during Spring Fling. If you would like to make an appointment, you can reach her at 815-858-5099.

Mary Katos, (with BEST, Inc.) gave a presentation of her business services. They provide current labor market and economic information from Jobs EQ. They post job openings, do screenings and referrals. If interested, you can reach them at 815-777-6177 or 815-244-2522.

Events Committee

Ups and Downs: If you would like to donate cookies, please drop them off at Common Cents by May 6th.

Spring Fling is coming along. The fireman pork roast/dance will be this day as well at the Fire Station.

Midwest Garlic Festival is coming along. They would like more local vendors, and will need volunteers. If you would like to be a vendor, or help with this event, please contact any Chamber board member, or email garlic911@gmail.com

Spring in My Step will be May 21st. Contact a Chamber board member if you would like to participate.

Chamber golf outing will be May 19th. Contact a Chamber board member if you would like to participate.

Tourism/Accommodations Committee

New Street Signs, we would like to have a 3-hour parking sign. The Chamber will be purchasing 3 new banners for the poles.

Adopt-a-Pot has 1 pot left. The cost is \$16.00. If you would like one, please contact Lara Walters.

May 14th will be clean-up day in town. If you can help, please be at The Sweet Shoppe at 10:00 a.m.

Visitors Guide booklets have been printed and are being distributed.

Business Education/Advocacy Committee

Hillinois Bike Race is set for June 11-12, 2016. Volunteers will be needed for this event.

DMO vote deadline was April 29th.

Marketing Committee

Marketing was not discussed at this time.

Membership Committee

Membership: flyers will be created to give to new members, etc. stating what the Chamber does for you.

Village of Elizabeth said there will be minimum maintenance done this year. They are currently working on another sidewalk grant. The pavilion at the park has been approved into the budget. Volunteers may be needed to help install the pavilion. There will be more electric installed down at the park for outside events. There is possibly a band shell to purchase from a community member, but the Village would like the Chamber to purchase it.

GEAR said that Zumba classes will be starting, as well as possible open gym volleyball, more information to come. Dance classes will still be offered at the Elizabeth Community building. GEAR will be selling Gatorade/water/and jars of salsa at Midwest Garlic Festival in August. JDCF would like GEAR to partner with them with an upcoming run event. A mat has been installed on the front of the stage in the gym.

ECO-Devo/Fair Board is working on a new project to get a population of 1,000 in Elizabeth.

OLD BUSINESS

Galena/Jo Daviess CVB: They are holding a tourism dinner at the Desoto House, organizing a girlfriend getaway, and working on their new website. They are also creating new Antique trail brochures. Betsy will be leaving the CVB. We are sad to see her go, but wish her good luck on her new journey.

Team Jo Daviess Meeting spoke about the Chamber Golf Outing.

NEW BUSINESS

The board set a board meeting for May 18th to set a budget for 2016.

The Country Experience is having an Open House May 15th from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Things are starting to be organized for the parade the weekend of the fair, July 23rd.

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

The next Chamber meeting will be Thursday, May 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Municipal Building.