

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2016

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

The attendees for this meeting were: Shellie Callan, Judy Meyerhofer, Katherine Walker, Pastor Mike Nesbit, Cheryl Rife, Peggy Francomb, Merri Sevey, Tammy Trebian, Robert Mahan, Merri Berlage, Lisa Walters, Lara Walters, Kathy Wand, and Anna Marie Pintozzi.

The Secretary's report had 1 change: the Adopt-a-Pot cost should read \$40.00, instead of \$16.00. The minutes were then approved by Cheryl, seconded by Judy. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report stated there currently is \$12,914.48 in the account. This was approved by Judy, seconded by Cheryl. Motion carried. An invoice was paid out this evening for the flowers purchased for the pots.

Guest Speaker Robert Mahan introduced himself as chair of the new DMO Board. He spoke about the meetings coming up, of which they will be discussing the by-laws, contracts, etc., and how to help the county's interests.

Events Committee said the Ups and Downs went well. The attendance was 70 people. This was down a little from last year. Spring Fling is coming up June 4th, and preparations are being made for it. The Fireman is holding their 1st Open House/Hog Roast/Dance this day/evening as well. Hillinois Bike Race is being planned out. Midwest Garlic Festival was not discussed at this time. Bingo/Parade will be Saturday and Sunday of the fair. We are asking for donations from businesses to give away at Bingo. Ken and Sue Haas are being asked to be the Marshall for the parade.

Tourism Committee said the pots went well. There are 18 pots in town. New streets signs will be placed in town, with a 3-hour parking limit. The Visitors Guide booklets are ready to pick up. If you would like some, contact Lisa Walters.

Business Committee stated that the Not-for-Profit status is almost ready to be submitted. DMO update was above.

Marketing Committee handed out a sheet that they have decided to do for businesses wanting to advertise for the annual events. This is to be paid in advance, by July 1st, for the 4 events. Paying ahead saves you the cost of 1 event.

Membership Committee presented a new business of Long Hollow Canopy Tours. They are looking for employees, and an email was sent out to Chamber members. This is also posted on the website. Cherry Creek Cottage Antique Mall will be opening where Cherry Creek Cottage used to be. Sally is looking for vendors to fill up her space.

Village of Elizabeth did some surveying of the sidewalks in town. They are working on the grant for the sewer issue.

GEAR stated that Yoga and Zumba will not be held until fall. There is discussion of partnering with JCDF to hold a run. This is still in the planning stages. Corkless Wine Festival will have 11 wineries and 3 bands. Soccer had 38 kids, and is considering partnering either with Galena ARC or Stockton.

Eco-Devo/Fair Board is teaming with the strategic planning group of the Village to work more with The Galena Territory and Apple Canyon Lake.

OLD BUSINESS

Galena/Jo Daviess CVB handed out some new brochures regarding an NW Illinois antique trail guide, a Great River Road Dining Guide, and an Illinois Great Rivers Country bicycle trails guide. They are still researching various “towers” in the area to see how the Elizabeth “tower” can be rebuilt.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of 2016 Budget was handed out, and will be updated quarterly.

Tammy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Judy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

The next Chamber meeting will be Thursday, June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Municipal Building.