

Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2020

The meeting was held via ZOOM, and called to order by President, Merri Sevey, at 7:00 p.m.

The attendees were: Merri Sevey, Shellie Callan, Judy Meyerhofer, Lara Walters, Lisa Walters, Emily Legal, Peg Francomb, Jeff Beals, Pastor Mike Nesbit, Jodi Korte, Tiffany Patterson, Tammy Trebian, Mike Dittmar, Heidi Ries, Kate Brondyke, Karen and Brian Staron, and Cheryl Rife.

The Secretary's Report was accepted, not voted or approved on at this time.

The Treasurer's Report was not given at this time.

Emily Legal from NWILED spoke briefly regarding payments, etc. for the COVID 19 relief help. Emily's contact information is (815) 297-7361 or elegal@nwiled.org.

Spring Fling/Summer Jubilee has been postponed until June 6th, pending the COVID 19 restrictions.

Freedom Festival is currently still scheduled as planned. The Chamber is concerned about asking businesses to help sponsor this event at this time. There was discussion of thinking of what other fundraising possibilities there could be. There is concern, though, that if we don't host this event this year, we may lose it going forward.

Adopt-A-Pot wants to meet May 4th to plant the pots. Please contact Lara at threesistersweetshoppe@gmail.com if you would like to help or if you had any other ideas of areas in town that need a clean-up or freshen-up.

Fundraiser for Non-Essential Businesses discussed "Flocking" the community. This would be a way to help raise money to distribute to the businesses. There was discussion on this, but further research will be done.

Facebook Campaign is still posting information for businesses. Please contact Merri to post for your business.

Village of Elizabeth stated that IDOT has been doing some core samples in Elizabeth. The sidewalk project has been moved up. The Village will be passing a loan assistance program for businesses affected by the state closure. An email will be sent out to all chamber businesses on Friday. If you have any questions or would like to take advantage of this loans, please contact Mike Dittmar.

Visitors Guide is almost ready. The cover is being finished up and then it will be ready for print/distribution.

Armed Forces Day/Memorial Day as Veteran's Day, the chamber is asking for pictures of Elizabeth active service men women for Armed Forces Day and deceased Veteran's for Memorial Day. They will be honored on our Facebook page.

Membership Dues Approximately 50% of the Chambers 2019 members have not paid their dues for 2020. The Chamber isn't going to actively try to get your dues right now because of the shutdown, but if you can afford it and haven't paid, please send your dues in now.

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN FORUM

Lara Walters let us know that there is a parent group attempting to put banners in the Village for the graduating River Ridge Seniors. The Chamber will answer any questions regarding this project and assist with knowledge but will not be monetarily supporting it.

Mike stated that Dittmar Farms might have about 30 Cortland apple trees. If anyone would be interested in buying them from him, please let him know. He will sell them to you at cost.

Dittmar Farms also has a post on their Facebook page regarding Bill Wiley having some steers for sale. If you are interested, please contact Mike and he will get in touch with Bill Wiley.

The ZOOM meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.