**West Liberty Business Association Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, Aug 12, 2021 at Liberty Gathering Place (LGP) 7:45am**

**In attendance**:  Mitch Lingrell, President (LT’s Uniquities), Katie Neer, Secretary (Solomon’s Garage and Neer & Farm), Jill McKelvey (WL Mayor), Jayne Griffith (West Liberty Village Council), Tami Cox (Country Friends), Linda Vernon (Vernon Farms)

**Minutes:**

* Mitch called the meeting to order.
* Katie did not have the July WLBA Meeting **minutes** prepared.
* Mitch shared the **Treasurer’s Report**provided by Jon.
* Jill McKelvey provided a report from Council. Oct 21 at 6:30pm will be the Purple Heart Community Memorial dedication by Malia Hughes' office near the cannon.
* Jill suggested ice cream and samples of pie from LGP be served on the August 20 Vendor Fair Friday event. Tami and Linda agreed.
* Jill reported that a broadband internet expansion will take place soon.
* Jill asked that all village voters support a sales tax renewal to help road and bridge projects.
* Jayne reported that Council is working with a design company on reopening the W Columbus street bridge for pedestrians hopefully using Transportation Alternative Program grant money.  Council is also working to have a local person build bicycle racks throughout town using that funding.
* Jill reported that the Sherman Ricketts family is working towards having a shelter house and trees put up near bike trail on west end of town near the Sherman Ricketts park.
* Jill stated that Sept 21 will be the Simon Kenton Pathfinders bicycle tour, hopefully will have 150-200 riders in town that day. Business encouraged to welcome bicyclists. Jill suggested perhaps a WLBA rep could be at the trail head near the butterfly wing mural passing out maps, bottled water. A volunteer is needed to serve as a WL ambassador that day.
* Linda Vernon reported that the Events Committee will be providing updated welcome booklets in 2022, designed and printed by Design Scribe. These will be for visitors and new residents. For now, Linda provided trifold brochures and rack cards to the Village for new residents.
* Linda also reported that the Events Commmittee plans to do just one big weekend vendor fair next summer rather than one per month. Mitch suggested having a car show, bike shower, food truck rally competition, etc. on a side street.
* Linda reported that the Events Committee is working on a fall 2021 walking tour and two bus tours in 2022. Volunteers needed.
* Mitch stated that membership renewal letters should be sent out around Oct 1 with renewals due by Jan 1, and get the new booklets out by the end of January 2022.
* Trick or treat will be Sat Oct 30 3-5pm.
* Tami Cox is working to get lights downtown redone after they fell last winter. This shall be done before the holiday season, and the lights then will be put on a timer and lit year round.