**West Liberty Business Association Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, March 10, 2022 at Liberty Gathering Place (LGP) 7:45am**

**In attendance**:  Mitch Lingrell, President (LT’s Uniquities), Linda Vernon, Vice President (Vernon Farms), Katie Neer, Secretary (Solomon’s Garage and Neer & Farm), Brittany McElroy (Civista Bank), Tami Cox, Member at Large (Country Friends), Jayne Griffith (West Liberty Village Council),Lydia Hess (Logan Co Chamber), Lindsey McGlone (Elle A Design), Cindee Boyd (Village Clerk), Jill McKelvey (Mayor)

**Minutes:**

* Mitch called the meeting to order.
* Since Brittany had to leave right as the meeting began, she had reported to Mitch and he shared the only new income this past month was Civista Bank's membership dues. Mitch, Brittany and Linda will meet at 12:30 March 16 to help Brittany get up to speed in her new position as treasurer. Brittany is working to get herself and Mitch as the only signers on both the bank accounts at Peoples and Civista.
* Katie read the February meeting minutes which she previously emailed to the membership. Tami moved to accept the minutes,  Linda seconded.
* Jill McKelvey reported that the Village Council and Sherry Barger are working with the WLBA and Marie's Candies to feature a business a month starting in April in the newsletter, on [mywestliberty.com](http://mywestliberty.com) on the sign, etc. Bailey Kolb with Beighliebird Photography will head up this effort on the Business Assoc side working with a local high school student as an intern to interview and photograph the selected business each month. Thank you to all involved in this program. At the end of the year, a Business of the Year will be announced.
* The Village is working on several other projects in conjunction with WLBA and the Logan Co Visitors Bureau to boost tourism in West Liberty.
* The Annual Dinner Meeting will be April 19 at 6pm at the Opera House (there will be no regular monthly meeting in April). Paul's Catering will be doing the dinner. Linda is working with him to confirm the menu. Katie made a couple suggestions for guest speakers and music and Linda is working on those as well. Jill will have a brief update at the dinner as Mayor.
* Mitch's three year term is up in April. Nominations are being taken for President and will be voted on at the Annual Dinner Meeting.
* Linda provided an update for the Events Committee. Hello Spring will be held March 25&26. Beighliebird Photography will do photos with the Easter Bunny at Neer & Farm from 12-2 March 26. There will be a food truck in town and stores are encouraged to have sales and specials and to be open those days 10-5!
* National Tourism week is May 1-7. The Logan Co Visitors Bureau is featuring communities throughout that week, and specifically West Liberty on May 5. There will be a morning event at Ohio Caverns, 1-3pm will be events with food trucks downtown followed by an afternoon event at the castle.  The next events committee meeting will be held March 15 at 8a.m. at Sweetie Pie's. Any members welcome to attend.
* The Village tourism /new resident booklet concept has been tabled at this time since the Logan Co Visitors Bureau plans to put out a similar booklet in 2023 with a dedicated West Liberty Section.
* Linda, Tami and Katie met with Elle A Design to resurrect the trifold brochures and rack cards and combine them into one printing to go out soon to hand out to visitors. It will feature West Liberty shopping, attractions, dining, lodging, as well as list important community events. We will print approx 1000 about every quarter allowing us to make any necessary updates as needed.
* May 21 is Fire Sale Day. There will be an antique fire truck parked at the Town Hall for polaroid photo opportunities with Beighliebird Photography. The Fire Dept will be accepting donations that day for equipment. The Association will again pay for portajohns and secure food trucks for that day.
* June 24-25 is the Summer Bash in downtown West Liberty. There will be a car show, food trucks, a band, vendors set up.
* Bus tours have been tabled at this time. Any association members with leads please let the officers know.
* Vote for our hometown favorite Michael's Pizza in the Logan Co March Pizza Bracket!
* Tami suggested we revisit the idea of the pulley system to put banners over the street.
* Tami stated Eric Esh got the strand of lights downtown back up and running that had been burnt out.
* Mitch asked if the board could consider having officers not have to pay membership dues in the future. Linda motioned to table that till May. Tami seconded.
* Linda motioned to adjorn the meeting.
* Mitch seconded.