

West Liberty Business Association Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 9, 2023 at Liberty Gathering Place, 5:30pm

Attending:

Linda Vernon, Vice President
Jill McKelvey, Mayor
Katie Neer, Solomon's Garage
Jon and Tricia McCutcheon, Wicked Thrift Store
Roberta Yoder, Bobbi's Bungalow and Heaven's Dew
Ashley Shaffer, Liberty Gathering Place

Brenda Snyder, Secretary
Tami Cox, Member at Large
Jodee Gill, Blackbird on the Mad River
Allen Snyder, Pig in a Pickle

Call to order by Vice President, Linda Vernon:

Treasurer's Report: see attached: Brenda Snyder 1st, Tami Cox 2nd, approved.

Secretary Report: Jill McKelvey 1st, Tami Cox 2nd, approved as posted online.

Membership: We currently have 66 paid members which is up from 46 last year. This is a 43% increase!

By-laws: We have taken a step back with the changes to the by-laws. We will be meeting with an accountant and possibly an attorney just to make sure we are doing everything correctly. As soon as we are finished with all of those steps, we will bring them back for a vote. We want to make sure and keep this set up correctly as a non-profit.

Business of the Month: Theresa's Gingerbread House, LLC Childcare Centers/Heather Chamberlain was voted April's Business of the Month. There will be an award presentation on April 4th at 10am at their West Liberty location. Marie's Candy will honor Heather and feature her favorite candy and Stoner's Ice Cream Parlor will create a new sundae based on her candy choice.

Tablecloths: We are looking for some white gently used tablecloths to donate to the Opera House. We are in need of 3 rectangle 8ft tablecloths and 11 round 7ft round tablecloths. All of these would need to be white.

2023 Tri-fold Brochures- Tami has finished the rack cards and is finishing up the brochure. Current members will be listed on the brochure. The map in it needs updated. White Rabbit Tech is working on a new QR code and links that will be featured in the brochure. Business Owners need to make sure their Google listings are accurate and up to date because this is how the QR code will work.

Hello Spring Event – March 24th and 25th. We have a food truck confirmed for the 25th but are still looking for one on the 24th from 11-3. If you know of someone, please have them get in touch with Brenda Snyder or Tami Cox at wliba@mywestliberty.com. Each participating store will have passports available for customers to get stamped at each of those stores. Customers can get an additional stamp with purchase. Once they have the passport filled in, they can drop off at the last store they visit. We will then have a drawing after the 2nd

weekend. We will give away 3 prizes. 1st place \$50 Liberty Bucks, 2nd place \$25 Liberty Bucks, and 3rd place \$10 Liberty Bucks. Winners can cash in these Liberty Bucks at the participating stores only.

April 1st and 2nd we will have an Easter Bunny in the village.

The Lions Club Pancake Breakfast will be April 1st from 7am-11am at the Fire House.

The Egg Hunt will be April 2nd at Lion's Park. The egg hunt will be broken down by age groups.

Fire Sales: May 20. We will be getting 4 Porta potties. Civista Bank is sponsoring 500 bags that will be given out of various events starting with the Fire Sales as well as new residents. All member businesses are encouraged to come up with something to put in those bags that represents and will draw people to your business even if it is just a business card. Items can be dropped off to Tami at Country Friends.

Summer Street Market and Car Show- Saturday June 24th, 11am-7pm. We have lined up participants from Top of Ohio Cruisers, Shriners, Buckeye Outlaws, and the Champaign Cruisers. We are still in need of vendors for the street market. The available spaces will be a 10' x 10' for \$40 and 10' x 20' spaces for \$75. We are also looking for additional committee members for this event. Please consider volunteering for this or any other event committees. It takes many volunteers to make these events successful and when they are successful, we all succeed. We are looking for Boy or Girl Scout troops who would like to help with trash for this day.

Summer Garden Tour – July 22nd. Jake Vitt is heading up a new event this year! If you would like to help, please let Jake know. All details are still being planned.

WLBA Event Coordinator: explore the suggestion of a Coordinator to represent WLBA and oversee events as well as develop volunteer committees, establish working relationships with other organizations and both Chambers. If anyone knows someone who may be interested in this position, please have them get in touch with Heather or Linda at wlbawestliberty.com.

Logan County Visitors Bureau: we are also looking for any members who would be interested in attending the monthly meeting of the Logan County Visitors Bureau. They meet every third Wednesday of the month at 8am at the Logan County History Center. Enter through the door to the Transportation Museum. The more representation we have from West Liberty, the more voices we have in where the tourism budget gets spent. The next meeting is next week, Wednesday, March 15th at 8am.

Upcoming Monthly Meeting Dates

April 13 - Farm Market 5:30 P.M.

May 11 - Farm Market 5:30 P.M.

June 8 - Sweetie Pies 7:30 A.M. (This is the meeting before the Street Market and Car Show)

July 20 - Farm Market 5:30 P.M (The week before is the Logan County Fair)

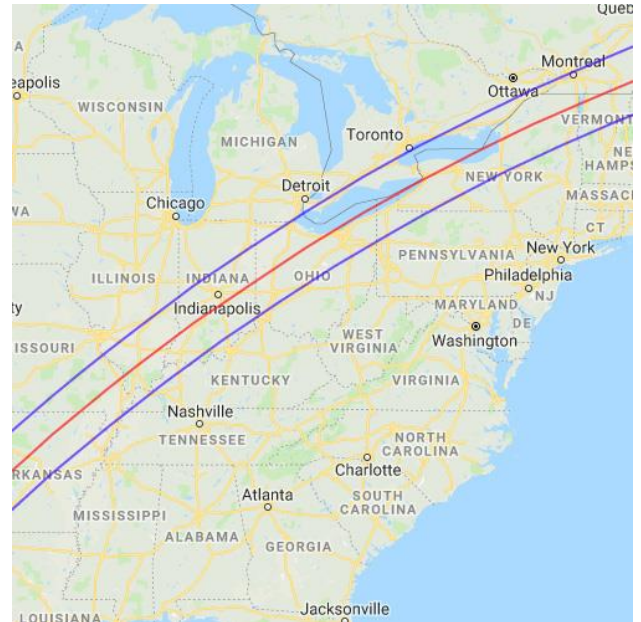
Aug 17 - Farm Market 5:30 P.M. (The week before is the Champaign County Fair)

Village Information: The Community Reinvestment Areas allows businesses (and residents) to make improvements to properties and then receive some relief from increased taxes for a certain amount of years and a percentage. Exterior improvements that increase value of property by an amount set by Logan County Auditor. More information can be obtained from Clerk's office. We are looking into setting up some type of meeting or FB Live event with Logan County Auditor Jack Reser to further help explain and answer any questions. Watch for further details!

We still have 2023 Village Calendars. Please contact Jayne Griffith to get calendars to hand out with every sale from your business. AND there are still gold, silver, and bronze sponsorships for the 2024 calendars. Jayne can be contacted at j.griffith@mywestliberty.com

Looking ahead! On April 8, 2024 there will be a total solar eclipse that West Liberty is in the direct path! We are looking ahead to create an event that will draw people to our village to not only view the eclipse but also patronize our member businesses.

The map to the right shows the path the eclipse is predicted to follow.



Mayor Jill shared some numbers from our local resources for our member businesses to possibly take into consideration when planning marketing options.

Splash Pad- average of 80 kids per day that it is open.

Bike Path – average of 1500 people per month in nice weather.

West Columbus from Reynolds to the bridge will be getting repaved.

The Historical Society is still trying to raise funds to finish all of the renovations for the Opera House. If you are interested in contributing, please see a member of the Historical Society.

THIS IS A SURPRISE!!! On March 29th from 7pm-8:30pm there will be a surprise retirement celebration for Cindy Oelker on her upcoming semi-retirement after she has sold the Liberty Gathering Place to new owners. This event will take place in the Opera House.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Snyder

WLBA Secretary