

West Liberty Business Association
Annual Dinner Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 19, 2022 6-8pm
West Liberty Town Hall Opera House

In attendance: Mitch Lingrell & Angela Wells (LT's Uniquities,) Jeff & Linda Vernon (Vernon Farm), Tami Cox & James Taylor (Country Friends of Ohio LLC & National Salt Distributors), Brittany McElroy & Chad & Heidi Pitcock (Civista Bank), Katie Neer (Neer & Farm), JD Harshfield (Ohio Caverns), Jill McKelvey (West Liberty Mayor), Jayne Griffith & Joanna Hostetler (West Liberty Village Council), Dave Neer, Katy Leib, Jay Agudelo (Solomon's Garage,) Lydia Hess (Logan County Chamber of Commerce,) Michelle Neer & Sue Folt (MCC Thrift Store), Dustin & Patti Gardner (Reality Capture Experts,) Lindsey & Trevor McGlone, Chelsea Bray & Ethan Reames, Lane Yoder (Elle A. Design,) Jennifer Schwaderer (People's Savings & Loan & WL Historical Society), Cindee Boyd (Village of West Liberty), Jay & Kathy King (Marie's Candies), Margaret Piatt & Jim White (Piatt Castle Mac-A-Cheek), Donna Lou Erwin & Bob Harrison (WL Historical Society,) Roberta & Jeff Yoder (Bobbi's Bungalow and Heaven's Dew Ag & Healthy Home), Stacy Joseph & Bishop Langhoff (Shell), Andrew Blount (WL Historical Society) & Rebecca Kauffman (Bethel), Mary & Sarah Clasen (WL Healing Arts), Ryan Berry (Berry Digital Solutions), Jake Vitt & Judy Legge (Logan Lawn & Landscaping), Wes & Susan Krabill (West Liberty Building & Supply), Ashley Woolever & Rebecca Hager (Sweetie Pie's), Lee & Heather Chamberlain (Theresa's Gingerbread House), Jeff & Kelli Stoner (Ice Cream Parlor)

Welcome & Dinner

Mitch Lingrell, President, welcomed everyone for attending and asked Jeff Vernon to offer a blessing. The meal was provided by Paul's Catering out of Urbana and included chicken breast, pork roast, green beans, cheesy potatoes, salad, rolls and coffee cake muffins. Musical entertainment followed the dinner, provided by WLS choir students.

Business

Mitch reported on the accomplishments from the last three years during his role as president of the business association, and had everyone introduce themselves.

Brittany shared the financial report and encouraged members to submit membership dues and sponsorships for the year.

JD Harshfield, one of the managers at the Ohio Caverns, was the guest speaker. He stated he has worked there for 13 years. He shared an overall history of the 125 years of the cave, and shared that as a celebration for this anniversary, they will have a special tour this summer. Stay tuned for more info. He shared a few new updates. The cave is now about 105% solar powered, selling some energy back to DP&L. The Caverns have 3 electric car charging stations on site, and they now have a back deck off the gift shop with seating for 50-60 people.

Jill McKelvey, Mayor of West Liberty, announced the May Business of the Month, Elle A Design. She presented their team with a plaque. Businesses of the month will continue to be nominated by the Village Council and voted on by the WLBA members for the entirety of this year. At the end of the year a

Business of the Year will be chosen. Jill spoke briefly about the upcoming reveal of the mural in downtown West Liberty as well as new merchandise to become available soon. Everyone is to mark their calendars for the What's Next brainstorming meeting to be held June 15 at 6pm at the Opera House following up from the West Liberty Growing and Prospering Meeting back in February. Anyone interested in attending should join in the discussion. Our town will thrive because of our own people and our own resources.

During the meeting a vote was taken for the new president, Heather Chamberlain had been nominated prior to the meeting and there were spots for write in votes on the ballot. Dave Neer & Jeff Vernon counted the votes and Mitch Lingrell announced the new president to serve from April 2022 to April 2025 will be Heather Chamberlain, owner and CEO of Theresa's Gingerbread House. Heather thanked everyone for being selected as the new president and looks forward to becoming more involved in the association and then adjourned the meeting.

***Next month's meeting will be Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 5:30pm at Liberty Gathering Place.**

Katie Neer
WLBA Secretary