

West Liberty Business Association

Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 8am at Liberty Gathering Place

In attendance: Mitch Lingrell (LT's Uniquities,) Ronda DeLeon (Holdren Brothers,) Roberta Yoder (Yoder Concrete Construction, LLC,) Lydia Hess (Logan County Chamber of Commerce,) Jon McCutcheon (Supply Chain Tech,) Cindee Boyd (Village of West Liberty,) Tami Cox (Country Friends of Ohio,) Gary Weaver (Civista Bank,) Chelsea Bray and Lindsey McGlone (Elle A Design,) Linda Vernon (Vernon Farm.)

Business items:

The **minutes** to the May meeting were read by Roberta.

Events Committee – there will be an Events Committee meeting next Tuesday, June 16th at 8am at Liberty Gathering Place. We need to make decisions on the Summer Street Market and Sidewalk sales soon to be able to promote them. Mitch said the Urbana Flea Market and Bellefontaine's sidewalk sales were both packed with people. Mitch moved that we move forward with the July Street Market event and Jon seconded it. Everyone agreed.

The **banner** has gotten twisted by the wind. Jon is researching a system where two people can put the banners up from the ground using cables and pulleys. He said it was under \$1500 and based on measurements. He will continue to research it. Mitch suggested that Cindee bring it up to the Street Department to put the banners up like in other area communities. She will bring it up at the next meeting.

Fire Sales – It was discussed that we need to make a decision now about fire sales. Jon moved that the West Liberty Business Association take over the Fire Sales. Cindee got an okay from Mayor Chance. Mitch seconded it. Motion passed.

Mitch will contact Dr. Dave Smith about installing the **lights** on the downtown building rooflines. Roberta will get him his contact info.

A Frames – One is at IGA and is only good on one side, which is fine for there since it is against a wall and under roof. We need to look at other options that are longer lasting. Tami suggested that we make the **way signs** to also have a place for interchangeable events. Ideas were discussed. Mitch and Ronda will work with Holdren Brothers on a design.

Linda Vernon from **J&L Vernon Farms** introduced herself and her business. Their farm has grass fed beef and lambs and also eggs. They are having trouble finding freezer space for meat that has been processed. Contact them if anyone knows of used freezers to purchase or freezer space to rent. They have beef ready but can't get them processed. She also works part time for the Logan County Land Trust. They are working on two local projects. One is a grant for the green space at the bike path's current parking area. The grant will help pay for a shelter house, electricity, water and bicycle services. This grant is endorsed by the Village and the Simon Kenton Pathfinders. They also have received a grant to educate farmers around West Liberty on how to use cover crops to help prevent flooding.

Gary Weaver from **Civista Bank** introduced himself. He said he used to be involved in the WLBA and wants to get involved again. Jon and Ronda both said they have received great service from Civista Bank lately. He said they are opening the lobby again on Monday with limited and restricted hours.

Mitch said there were about 45 kids on and around the splash pad when he was there recently, and it is a great addition to West Liberty. We need a way sign on that side of the park now, in addition to the one planned for the south side.

Lydia from the Logan County Chamber of Commerce invited everyone to the **Splash Pad's ribbon cutting** today at noon.

Cindee reported from the **Village** that the bike path traffic has tripled this last month. There is an opportunity to advertise your business there for \$375 initially and \$150 annually thereafter. The fireworks are scheduled for Sunday, June 28th.

Business changes downtown – Stride Out moved to Springfield. Simply Unique has moved down into the vacated space. A new store is setting up in the Nelson Insurance space. Mitch will see if he can get more information about it and see if they can be open by the Street Market weekend.

Financial Report: Jon said there is currently \$11,458.26 in the accounts. Linda asked how the association generated funds and was answered that it came primarily from dues, sponsorships and the luminaria 5k race. Other activities generated some income. Once we become a nonprofit, we can work on getting grants for area improvements.

Roberta gave a **Membership Committee** update. As of June 5th, there are 46 members who have renewed or joined. Last year we had 72 members. Jon state that he has gotten 18 more checks, and Keith LeVan paid at the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

***Next month meeting is on Thursday, July 9th at Liberty Gathering Place.**

Roberta Yoder
WLBA Secretary