

West Liberty Business Association Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 17, 2022 at Liberty Gathering Place at 5:30pm

In attendance:

Linda Vernon, Vice President	Vernon Farms
Brenda Snyder, Secretary	Pig in a Pickle
Brittany McElroy	Civista Bank
Alan Kauffman	Heaven's Dew
Jill McKelvey	Mayor, West Liberty
Cindy Oelker	Liberty Gathering Place
Ashley Woolever	Sweetie Pie's

Board Vice President Linda Vernon called the meeting to order.

Police Chief Shane Oelker and Officer John Puckett introduced themselves to the meeting attendees. They discussed their intent for the Christmas Parade.

Secretary Report. Secretary Brenda Snyder noted that the October meeting minutes had been previously emailed out and asked if any changes were needed. No changes were noted. Jill made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Ashley seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer Brittany McElroy provided the **Treasurer's report**. See attached. There was an overall income of \$5960 and expenditures of \$2144.98, with total assets listed at \$14,178.79. Jill moved to accept the report. Ashley seconded. Motion passed.

Business of the Month for December is Malia Hughes of Fathom Realty. Malia filled out the questionnaire to generate an article.

Christmas Parade – The parade route will be the same as in previous years, They will leave the park at 6:30pm, go down Baird Street and turn right onto Detroit Street. Roberta Yoder and has notified the committee that this will be her last year in charge of the luminaries for the 5K race. A suggestion was made for next year to see if the local Boy Scout Group would be interested in taking over this duty.

We also want to thank Steve Barth for getting the outside music fixed at MCC Thrift Store for all to enjoy through the Holiday season.

Small Business Saturday – There will be one of the elves at Sweetie Pie's from 10-11 to hand out the bags we received from American Express. We will also draw the winner of the Snowflake Basket at 5pm on this day at 5pm.

Tour of Homes – Jill read an update provided to her from Heather Chamberlain the head of the Tour of Homes Committee. The tour is slated for Saturday, Dec 10 from 5-8pm.

The Village of West Liberty is pleased to announce the 2022 Christmas Tour of Homes. The 2022 Tour includes 8 total stops, including 5 local AirBnB's, a newly remodeled downtown office, the historically renovated Town Hall Opera House (featuring live entertainment) and the incredible Moxley home!

Our downtown will be open all evening featuring a unique shopping experience along with the tour of homes, including horse drawn carriage rides from Town Hall courtesy of Aaron Francis of Royer Realty from 5:00-8:00pm!

Late night shopping stops:

- Marie's Candies will be open from 5-6 PM with special candy samples!
- Heaven's Dew Ag and Healthy Home will offer coffee and holiday snacks, and a special ornament with a \$25.00 purchase!
- Country Friends of Ohio is hosting a "Sip and Shop" with wine, mulled cider, Christmas snacks and an ornament with purchase!
- Pop's Uniquities will be open from 5-8pm and will be serving cheesecake bites and coffee! The entire warehouse is 50% off!
- MCC Thrift will be open from 5-8pm.
- Neer & Farm will be open from 5-8pm, serving Christmas Cookies from Sweetie Pie's Baked Goods and Coffee Shop!
- Jones Country Store will have cider and sweet treats and a candle light shopping experience!
- Sweetie Pie's Baked Goods & Coffee Shop will be open from 5-8pm.
- Liberty Gathering Place will be open for cookie decorating and serving Prime Rib.
- The Town Hall will be open and we will have live entertainment:
 - 5-6pm First Church of God Praise and Worship Chorus
 - 6-7pm Bellefontaine Les Fons Show Choir
 - 7-8pm West Liberty-Salem Sound Check

All will be singing Christmas songs and carols.

Aaron Francis from Royer Realty is sponsoring free Horse Drawn Carriage rides downtown

Please join us for a wonderful evening of enjoying Christmas in the Village! Tickets are available online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../christmas-tour-of-homes-in...>

Tickets will also be for sale at The Town Hall located at 201 N. Detroit St., as well as Theresa's Gingerbread House in Urbana & West Liberty, Country Friends of Ohio, Heaven's Dew Ag and Healthy Home, and Jones Country Store. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. (If you purchase your tickets online you will still need to pick up your actual ticket at the Town Hall.)

Special Thank You to Our Sponsors: Country Friends of Ohio, Civista Bank, Theresa's Gingerbread House, Paul's Catering, Malia Hughes Powered by Fathom Realty, Jones Country Store, Green Hills, Logan Lawn and Landscaping, Solomon's Garage, Hickory Medical, Metz Roofing, Hankins Realty, The Peoples Savings and Loan Company, The Logan Country Chamber and Visitors Bureau, Elle A. Design, Dorcey's Flowers, 88.9 Rise FM, West Liberty Lions Club and Thoman's IGA

Proceeds from the tour will go to the Business Association to put on future community events.

The 2022 West Liberty Christmas Tour of Homes will include the following locations:

Moxley House
214 West Columbus Street

Opera House (featuring live Christmas music)
201 North Detroit Street

Elle A. Design
105 North Detroit Street

Pop's Donkey Den
117 1/2 West Baird Street

Blackbird on the Mad River
415 East Columbus Street

Bobbi's Bungalow
211 North Detroit Street

Country Cottage Inn
6180 Sullivan Road

Bethel Hospitality House
304 Leonard Street West

Halloween Spooktacular committee has money left over so they will be rolling that forward for next year's event.

Member Spotlight – Member businesses are encouraged to fill out their information at <https://mywestliberty.com/spotlight.html>

Trifold Brochures, Website. The Trifolds are done and were handed out to members tonight to start getting them distributed.

Mayor Jill – we will be voting on a Business of the Year. The voting form will be emailed out on Dec 31 and voting will continue until January 4th at 5pm.

We also want to thank Village employees Cindee Boyd and Missy Hughes for all the help they give to the WLBA!

Mayor Jill also noted the various things, especially the new West Liberty calendars, that are on sale to benefit the fund raising for the West Columbus Street Bridge.

She also noted that we need to start thinking about Wayfaring signs so that visitors can more easily find their way around.

She is also working on new resident bags. And Trent Spriggs is working on flag pole holes to make sure they are all on working order.

Annual Dinner – we need sponsors for this event. Please contact Brittany if your business is interested in sponsoring. We will mail out Annual Dinner Invites along with the membership letter on December 1. The dinner has been scheduled for January 19, 2023 and will be held in The Opera House starting at 6:00pm. Peppercorn's have been booked to cater this event. 2022 current members will receive 2 dinners included with their membership. Additional dinners may be purchased for \$35. Going forward, the dinner will be an additional cost to the membership fees instead of being included.

Mayor Jill's son has been working on a QR code for a walking tour of West Liberty. It is featured on the new trifolds.

On November 10 from 6-8pm there will be a Veteran's Day Celebration Open House. Watch for details. November 20th, there will be a taping of elderly residents memories of the holidays.

Heather stated volunteers are needed to achieve all our goals as an organization.

Ashley moved to adjourn the meeting. Jill seconded it.

*** The December meeting will be Thursday, December 15th at 5:30 at the Mad River Farm Market.**

Hope to see you all there!

Thank you,

Brenda Snyder

WLBA Secretary