**West Liberty Business Association –** Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2016, 7:30 a.m. @ Liberty Gathering Place

**Present:** Officers: President Margaret Hager (A Needle Pulling Thread), Treasurer Julie Bodenmiller (Civista Bank), Secretary Katie Neer (Solomon’s Garage), Members: Zach Feely (Edward Jones), Colton Lowry (Edward Jones), Sherry Forsythe (Highland Country Store), Ryan Berry (Berry Digital Solutions), Chris Anders (Berry Digital Solutions), Tami Wenger (Gloryland Ministries, Project Teddy Bear), Rebecca Marker-Smith (Green Hills), Malia Hughes (Realtor, Marketplace), Alex Dye (The Grove), Jayne Griffith (Street Market), Cyndi McClure (Street Market), Michelle Neer (MCC Thrift), Mark Boyer (Shine FM), Cindee Boyd (Village), Roberta Yoder (YCC, Bobbi’s Bungalow)

**Minutes:** The March minutes that Katie emailed out per Julie were approved.

**Financial Report:** Julie provided the current Financial Report dated April 5, 2016. The current bank balance is $4383.45. We are starting out the year strong.

**Annual Dinner Meeting:**

* Julie said she will share the fiscal year statement and audit info at the Annual dinner meeting.
* Margaret will be getting a gift for the guest speaker and the door prizes will be the centerpieces. Margaret will mark places for the winners of the door prizes.
* Rebecca said Green Hills is all set to serve 45 attendees per Katie’s RSVP list. There will be a buffet-style meal with two meats, two vegetables and more and the cost is $10.50 per person.
* We have $340 of sponsorships – $250 from The Peoples Savings & Loan, $50 from Civista Bank and $40 from Colton Lowry at Edward D Jones. The Association will pick up the remainder of the cost for the meal.
* Ryan will speak about the website and the bidding process for Website ads. Ryan will send out an email ahead of time provided website analytics and reminding people how to bid if they can’t attend the dinner.
* Tami Wenger will be speaking about the Bicentennial Committee. Their meetings are the last Tuesday of each month, 6:30 at the Town Hall. Anyone is welcome and encouraged to join in.
* Suggested officers for the next 3 years are:

President – Ryan Berry (Berry Digital Solutions)

Vice President – Chris Anders (Berry Digital Solutions)

Secretary – Katie Neer (Solomon’s Garage)

Treasurer – Mark Boyer (Shine FM)

**Spring Fling Review:** It was a success. The hat idea went over well.

**Brochures:** Ryan Berry will talk to Tommy Yoder with Honest Print about reprinting/updating brochures. Tommy has already started a mockup he believes.

**Street Markets:** Katie provided a copy of the registration form to Cyndi and Jayne. Cyndi and Jayne will collect $5 from each vendor each week. The event will be head each Friday 3-7pm from May 20 (the night before Fire Sales) thru Aug 14. The third Friday of the month will be special. Funds from the event will go towards the fireworks display for this year and next. All merchants are asked to participate in a fireworks display in front of stores much like the Bellefontaine community does with the doors. The public will vote on a winner and the money will go towards fireworks. Live music will be offered out of The Grove. The Grove may offer a farm market. Big Willy’s food truck from Urbana will be out the night before the Fire Sales. In July, the Street market will focus on the Bicentennial preparations for 2017.

**Advertising:** We will have another save-the-date postcard printed with a historic photo on the bank for the following fair weather events to begin passing out Fire Sale weekend.

1. street markets May 20-Aug 14 Fridays 3-7pm
2. BOSS Run
3. Lions Club Fish Fries and Ice cream socials
4. Fireworks/Softball tournament

In the fall we will issue another save-the-date postcard for fall events like the Autumn Open House and the Tour of Homes.

**Fire Sales:** Katie will talk with Kelly’s Septic about setting up port-a-johns at Thomans, Planks and Bethel again. CT will not be needed this year as we now have the public restrooms at the Town Hall available. Roberta Yoder (YCC) will donate some toilet paper for Fire Sale day to the Town Hall.

Katie will have Bob Rabenstein put up Fire Sale banner in WL at beginning of May and Street Market banner the day after Fire Sales are over.

Ryan and Chris with BDS will update the Fire Sales map and share it on Facebook. They will add a restroom at Town Hall and at the Marketplace to the map.

**The next monthly meeting will be Thursday, May 12 at 7:30a.m. at Coffee Matters Coffeehouse.**