**West Liberty Business Association –** Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2016, 7:30 a.m. @ LGP

**Present:** Officers: President Ryan Berry (Berry Digital Solutions), Vice President Chris Anders (Berry Digital Solutions), Secretary Katie Neer (Solomon’s Garage), Members: Sherry Forsythe (Highland Country Store), Tami Wenger (Gloryland Ministries, Project Teddy Bear), Michelle Neer (MCC Thrift), Cindee Boyd (Village Clerk), Diana Wilkins (Kara Lynn’s), Colton Lowry (Edward Jones), Margaret Hager (A Needle Pulling Thread), Alex Dye (The Grove)

**Fireworks:** The fireworks next year will be held the Sat of the 4 day Bicentennial Celebration.

**Advertising:** Ryan is now working with Main Street Graphics since Boldman dropped the ball on printing brochures and fall save the dates. The new brochures will be tri fold for racks and they will be bright in color so they stand out. Main Street will design the brochures and charge less than $200 for 500. For this price, we determined will not need to seek out sponsorships.

The fall postcard will include the following events:

Labor Day

Tour of Homes/Adriel Quilt Auction

Trick or Treat

Fall Open House

Christmas Preview

Christmas in the Village

**Street Market:** Music and food trucks really help with attendance, but this is usually just once per month. We are getting people coming from larger cities coming out on some of the slower weeks and they are disappointed in the Street Market. Next year we should again consider a once a month street market or earnestly try to get vendors to set up weekly, not just on the good weeks. Are the markets ending July 29 or Aug 14? This has been announced differently in different sources. Cyndi and Jayne were not in attendance to verify. Katie will ask Bob Rabenstein to take down the street market banner by July 29th.

**Website:**  Berry Digital Solutions will soon add a lodging page onto the website, as well as feature Businesses on the homepage. All members are encouraged to fill out survey at the Business Spotlight link which was emailed out. Businesses will be featured in the order of survey submissions.

**Labor Day:** Ryan and Chris will look into having a booth at the Labor Day Festival for the WLBA. Members are encouraged to participate at the booth and use it as a free advertising opportunity for your own businesses.

**Fall Open house:** The Fall open house will be Sept 9 & 10. WLBA will pay for the color ad in the paper and boost Facebook posts.

**Christmas in the Village:** Janet Young with First Church of God would like to become more involved and asked if they could take over the bean soup dinner at the firehouse before the Christmas parade this year. We all agreed that would be wonderful!

**Other:** The Grove will offer childcare/camp from 1-3pm Tuesdays and Thursdays in August and September for families needing help filling time in the long WLS summer break.

Businesses are encouraged to get involved planning the Bicentennial Celebration for next year. Now is the time to get involved.

The BOSS run will be Aug 20 at 9a.m.

The Project Teddy Bear Walkathon will be at Lions Park Aug 13.

Aug 5-7 is tax free weekend.

Cindee needs swag bags by Aug 1 for the Rock the Lake triathlon.

**The next monthly meeting will be Thursday, Aug 11 at 7:30a.m. at Sweetie Pie’s.**