

Marengo Chamber of Commerce

April 27, 2016

The Marengo Chamber of Commerce met on April 27, 2016, 12:00 at the Marengo Public Library. 14 members plus 2 guests were present.

Marilyn Rodgers, representative of the Historical Society, spoke with the group in regard to the Iowa Valley Scenic Byway. There will be 13 points of interest in Marengo. At each point there will be a sign with a phone number to call to get information on that particular spot. The cost per year for the audio package will be covered by hotel/motel tax. The cost for the sign/post average \$25 each. Some money has been donated for this, but all are not covered. After Marilyn left, it was moved and seconded to donate \$100 to cover the cost of 5 signs/posts. For more information on the Iowa Valley Scenic Byway visit www.ivrcd.org/projects-2/iowa-valley-scenic-byway. The link is also on the Chamber website under Community Links/Area Attractions.

Kim Nelson opened the meeting with a financial report. We have received one more donation for the Christmas decorations, which brings the total to \$2000.00.

3rd of July was discussed.

- Vendor Form: a few revisions were made to the vendor form (see attached). A letter needs to be drafted and sent out along with the vendor form to past vendors.
- Steph Allison said the hospital will be grilling hamburgers and brat.
- Kim called and talked to the State Inspector in regard to see if it would be possible for the Chamber to submit one inspection fee to cover all vendors. Yes it is possible, but the Chamber would be taking on all liability if someone would get sick from the food and would have to monitor to make sure all the vendors are in compliance. It was moved and seconded to make the vendors responsible for their own inspection fee.
- Matt German, pastor at the United Methodist Church and representative of the Marengo Ministerial Alliance attended the meeting upon the request of Kim Nelson. The question was brought up if it would be a good idea to have a community church service since the 3rd falls on a Sunday this year. Pastor German said their Church has a Contemporary Praise Team that could lead the worship service. It was moved and seconded to have the service from 9:30 – 10:30 with Pastor German coordinating the event.
- Friends of Marengo – 3rd of July planning meeting was held on 4/19/16. Items discussed:

- Games – what kind of games, would like to offer 6 games. Major issues is finding volunteers to run the games.
 - Question to the city – will there be new mulch placed before the 3rd. Deven said yes.
 - Indoor event in case of rain – check with the school.
 - Street closures – will be discussed at the next council meeting.
 - Letters to local business – will be delivered the first week of May.
 - Fundraising events – canvas painting April 23, cook out at Big G in June and looking at having a trivia night.
 - Next meeting is May 12, 7-8 pm at the Library
- A question was brought up at the last Friends of Marengo – 3rd of July Planning meeting as to what would happen if it would rain on the 3rd. Could the event be moved to the school and if so, who would make that call. It was decided that Lindsey Jergens would make the call in regard to the kid's games and the individual vendors would decide on their own. The parade would go on as planned.
 - Grand Marshalls – Jarrod Uthoff is a no, Ally Disterhoft is a maybe (depending on when she would need to be back in Chicago for her summer internship). The family will let Sandra know by the end of May. If Ally can't, Mark Swift will be contacted.

Kim asked Deven Markley if it would be possible to have the bandstand fixed up/painted and looking nice for the 3rd. Deven said he could put Kim on the next council meeting agenda. Garth volunteered to attend also. Mark Swift is checking with the paint companies to see if there is a program for free paint. Deven is looking as well. Volunteers would be needed to assist with the painting. Another point to be brought up at the council meeting is updating the electricity in the park. Deven told Kim he could also draft a letter to be presented to the Council.

Deven updated the group on city projects/events:

- City wide garage sale is May 14
- City wide clean-up is May 19-20
- Handed out the attached streetlight repair flyer
- Pool to open 5/30
- Summer reading program at the Library to start the 2nd week in May

Old Threshers Reunion flyers were handed out for businesses to post.