

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

CEC, Rebeca Gabel (**Secretary**)
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc, Carrie Christ (**Treasurer**)
City Board and Alderman, Cheri Wright
Dairy Queen, Baron Rana
Farmers & Merchants Bank, Barbara Joy
John Wright

Lebanon Advertiser, Susan Meister
Lions Club, Mike Bennett
McKendree University, Michele Erschen
Visitors Center, Joe Zimmerlee (**President**)

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am at the Visitor's Center by Joe Zimmerlee.

Mike Bennett led invocation.

Guest speakers:

- Richard and Penny Moon, owners of Jackpots Entertainment, LLC; hours 10am to midnight 7 days per week, Ribbon Cutting today after the meeting!
- Mrs. Morgan Hermanson, Attorney, grew up in Lebanon, started personal injury law practice, office is in Collinsville. Looking to help folks in Lebanon if needed! For more information, call 618-910-2245.
- Mayor Rich Wilken Update:
 - o Ordinance Committee is working to remove 1st 100 block from Historical District to allow for a TIF district to encourage new business (Mermaid House will not be affected, it remains on the Historical District).
 - o McKendree Marketing Club gave us a Feasibility Plan that coincides with our last strategic plan for Lebanon. When school starts back, this service is available at no charge to do marketing plans for Lebanon businesses interested in requesting a study and feasibility plan. This plan will be available for anyone to view on the City and Chamber websites.
 - o City has been making changes and updates to forms and processes at City Hall to make processes and coordination easier and more efficient.

Reports:

Lebanon School District Update

- None for this month

Treasurers Report:

- Checking Account Balance as of 05/25/2016 was \$1,683.12
- Money Market account as of 05/25/16 was \$13,340
- Mortgage balance is \$4,344
- Hwy 4 sign project: Income \$5,362/Expense \$702/Balance: \$4,660
- Police Rehab Project: Income \$5,140/Expense \$4,656/Balance: \$484

Secretary's Report

- April meeting minutes approved.

Visitors Center

- 2 fire extinguishers were inspected and recharged
- Jun 2nd, Charter internet and phone to be installed in Visitor's Center
- SIU School of Medicine will be meeting in Visitor's Center Basement on June 17th, 30-40 people expected
- We now have some help on Saturdays at the Visitor's Center, but more volunteers are always welcome for backup and to split the volunteer hours. If you can help or want to be put on the list of volunteers to call when needed, contact Joe Zimmerlee or Betty at the Visitor's Center at 537-8420.

Merchants

- For more information, e-mail Sherry Wimmer at sherry@design5online.com for more information on meetings.

McKendree University—Michele Erschen

- Tickets available for McKendree Football season. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.mckbearcats.com/tickets
- Summer sports and band camps are available
- McKendree students start moving in Aug 25th, Classes start Aug 29th

City (Cheri Wright)

- There was discussion about police truck tickets
- Bids being taken for water supply tank
- New water line going in on Schuetz Street over the summer

Website

- Please “Like” and share our Lebanon Chamber Webpage and Facebook Page so that we can get the word out on all events:
 - Lebanon Chamber Webpage: <http://www.lebanonil.us/>
 - Lebanon Chamber Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lebanonilchamberofcommerce?fref=ts>
- Please provide as much detail and information as possible to Rebeca for updating our Chamber Facebook, Web Page and Community Calendar at rebeca.gabel@gmail.com. Goal is three posts or more each week for our events, please help us keep your events front and center! If you are not seeing your events on the Chamber website or FB, please let Rebeca know.

Upcoming Events

- *Merchants Meeting is held the 2nd Thursday of every month at 8:30 (unless otherwise noted) at the Visitor’s Center. Contact Sherry Wimmer at 618-537-4555 for more information.
- *Women’s Club meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 7pm. Call Pam Martin at 537-4961 for more information.
- Jul 2—Car Show 5-9pm
- Jul 8 & 9—Fireman’s Picnic and Parade (Chamber of Commerce vehicle for parade)
- Jul 29 – Triad & Area Alumni Football Game
- Aug 6—Car Show 5-9pm
- Aug 6 & 7--\$100 Merchant Giveaway
- Aug 13—Lions Club Golf Tournament
- Aug 20—Lions Club MS Walk
- Sep 3—Car Show 5-9pm
- Oct 1—Fall Festival
- Oct 8—Car Show 5-9pm
- Oct 22, 2016—Trunk or Treat
- Oct 23—Witches’ Night Out
- Nov 18 - Jan 1—Winter Wonderland of Lights
- November 18 & 19—Victorian Holiday
- December—Hometown Christmas
- Dec 9, 10, 11—A Christmas Carol at the Looking Glass Playhouse

Old Business

- McKendree marketing students to present proposals to Mayor Wilken at City Hall on Apr 29th reference a collaboration between City of Lebanon and McKendree University Marketing department to develop a marketing plan for the city. More to come.
- Sound system for downtown; Dawn Ahner invited Bryan Peters from Alive Audio to present options and pricing for an outdoor PA system for our events. Bryan Peters will come back to present wireless proposal when he completes some other projects that are scheduled. TABLED UNTIL JULY.

New Business

- Proposal for possible need for new A/C system for Visitor's Center:
- Option A:
 - o First Bank is willing to refinance a new mortgage to include cost of new A/C system at 5%:
 - Principle: \$4,344.00
 - A/C: \$3,597.00
 - New Loan: \$7,941.00
- Option B:
 - o Discussed that A/C installer may also be willing to offer zero interest financing of A/C unit
 - o Tabled for if/when AC actually goes out.
- Joe Z brought up Education Foundation Golf Tournament, suggested \$50 donation to sponsor event. Motion approved.

Around the Table/Open Discussion

- Rebeca will provide a status next month of how many customers we have towards free energy for the Visitor's Center
- Cheri Wright; complaints/feedback from May Market...trash was left out all week after May Market...next year we must pay/hire someone to haul off all trash from May Market!
- Rich and Penny Moon announced that there will be a Grand Opening for Jackpots on June 18th
- Jay provided Looking Glass Playhouse update
 - o August—Rocky Horror Picture Show!
 - o A Christmas Carol—buy tickets soon, this sells out every year!
- Al Gerdes from Historical Society; HS is seeking grants for \$100-\$125K to move the trolley from Cedar Ridge Nursing Facility to the downtown square area
- Mike Bennett
 - o Jun 24 Golf Classic to raise funds for St Louis Children's Hospital
 - o There will be a BBQ to raise money for Lions Camp
- Barb Joy; rates are great right now for loans if anyone is needing to apply
- Morgan Hermansen;
 - o Looks forward to seeing everyone at the Fireman's Picnic this year, and supporting Lebanon wherever possible
- Rana;
 - o Dairy Queen starts serving breakfast on Jun 1st!
 - o Children's Miracle Network Fundraisers
 - o DQ is also participating in Yard Sale!
 - o Jul 28th—Miracle Treat Fundraising for Children's Miracle Network (donated \$1,200 from Blizzards purchased at last fundraiser)!
- The Lebanon Beautification Committee is working towards 501c3 status before moving forward with major improvement at the town 4-way traffic intersection.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 am.

Next Meeting: Jun 23, 2016 at Lebanon Visitor's Center downstairs at 8:00 am.

//signed//
Rebeca Gabel
Secretary

//signed//
Joe Zimmerlee
President