

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Joe Zimmerlee (**President**)

APEX Network, Rachael Bush

CEC, Rebeca Gabel (**Secretary**)

Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc, Carrie Christ (**Treasurer**)

City Board and Alderman, Cheri Wright

Dairy Queen, Baron Rana

Edward Jones, Paul Jansen

Farmers & Merchants Bank, Barb Joy

Lebanon Kids, Conrad

Lebanon Historian/Mermaid House, Led Adams

Lebanon Winter Wonderland, Al Gerdes

Lebanon Winter Wonderland, Rick Schmitt

Lebanon Women's Club, Clarice Kuch

Lebanon Women's Club, Pam Martin

Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt

Looking Glass Playhouse, Jay Frey

McKendree University, Michele Erschen

MDKauffman Photography, Matthew Kauffman

Scott AFB Public Affairs, Christine Spargur

Whimsey Gifts, Margaret Pearson

John Wright, Lebanon Beautification Committee

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

Invocation given by Margaret Pearson.

Guest speakers & Introductions of Guests:

- Rick Schmitt, Lebanon Winer Wonderland
- Matt Kauffman, MDKauffman Photography
- Christi Spargur, Scott AFB Public Affairs

Reports:

Treasurers Report:

- Checking Account Balance as of 8/24/2016 was \$744.48
- Money Market account as of 9/20/2016 was \$11,847.62
- Mortgage balance is \$3,621.11
- Treasurers report approved.
- Entrance signs are budgeted \$4,660 per sign, progressing along for installation weather and workload permitting.

Secretary's Report

- August meeting minutes approved.

Visitors Center

- Special thanks to Carrie, and the worker who cleaned up the weeds out back of Visitor's Center.

Merchants

- We are encouraging merchants to join the Chamber and energize our marketing efforts downtown.
- Holly Levell and Dawn Ahner are co-chairs for Merchants Association, contact either of them to join.
- For more information about Merchant events, e-mail Holly Lovell at thetiahouse@gmail.com.

McKendree University—Michele Erschen

- 10th Season of Hett Gala, McKendree Art Gallery, lots of things going on.
- Sep 24th is Family weekend at McKendree
- The Hett will host viewings and discussion for the three presidential debates on Monday Sep 26, Sunday Oct 9, and Wednesday Oct 19th at 8pm.
- Call the Hett at 537-6863 for tickets to upcoming events.

City (Cheri Wright)

- City is working on storage tank rehab on Pearl and Main.
- Library repairs are ongoing, to prevent water damage.
- All street closures for brick street events need to be coordinated well in advance, Cheri working with city council on the upcoming Witches Night Out and Victorian Holiday street closures.

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

- *Women’s Club meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 7pm. Call Pam Martin at 537-4961 for more information.
- Oct 1—Fall Festival
- Oct 8—Car Show 5-9pm
- Oct 22, 2016—Trunk or Treat will be on St Louis (brick street) this year
- Oct 30—Witches’ Night Out
- Nov 18 – Dec 31—Winter Wonderland of Lights
- November 18 & 19—Victorian Holiday
- Dec 3—Hometown Christmas 10am-5pm
- Dec 9, 10, 11—A Christmas Carol at the Looking Glass Playhouse
- Jun 10, 2017—Save the date; Third Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament!

Old Business

- Lebanon Beautification Committee; still pending establishment of 501c3 status. Looking for someone with nonprofit 501c3 experience to help set up our nonprofit so that future donations for beautification fund can be tax deductible for donors. Rebeca had been looking in to this, but due to other commitments must step aside if there is anyone who can take lead on the nonprofit status portion of the project. (John Wright or Rebeca Gabel)

New Business

- Chamber Website. Chamber approved \$241.27 to transfer our domain to GoDaddy which includes .us domain transfer through September 2019, 36 months of Deluxe Managed WordPress Websites, and 36 months of Basic SiteLock to protect security of visitors to our website.
- Rebeca Gabel requested additional funds to set up the new website on the new GoDaddy platform and receive training to update and maintain the new website, a requested amount will be presented at the October chamber meeting.

Around the Table/Open Discussion

- Joe Zimmerlee thanked Paul Jones for putting together proposed officers for 2017. Vote will take place
- Cheri Wright provided Fall Festival update; vendors are full, Trunk or Treat went so well last year that we moved it to St Louis Street this year to prevent parking safety issue at the Golf Course.
- Still need a few volunteers for Victorian Holiday to close and open streets and move picnic tables in place each night. Please share this link at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e48a4a629a2fd0-volunteers1> with anyone who can fill the remaining volunteer slots or have them contact Rebeca Gabel at rebeca.gabel@gmail.com or 618-610-2509.
- Al Gerdes: Volunteers needed for Lebanon Winter Wonderland, technical skills not needed, just manpower.

- Reminder for Jessica Zurliene, bags tournament fundraiser at Rt 4 & Pearl to benefit our police department will be held on Sep 24th from 2pm to 11pm, 10 businesses, \$100 sponsorship opportunities, 30 Teams at \$40/team!

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 am.

Next Meeting: Oct 26, 2016, at Lebanon Visitor's Center downstairs at 8:00 am.

//signed//
Rebeca Gabel
Secretary

//signed//
Joe Zimmerlee
President