

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Joe Zimmerlee (President)	Lebanon Women's Club, Pam Martin
CEC, Rebeca Gabel (Secretary)	Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt
Cedar Ridge, Lori Thrutchley	Looking Glass Playhouse, Jay Frey
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc, Carrie Christ (Treasurer)	McKendree University, Michele Erschen
City Board and Alderman, Cheri Wright	Whimsey Gifts, Margaret Pearson
Dairy Queen, Baron Rana	
Edward Jones, Paul Jansen	
Lebanon Historian/Mermaid House, Led Adams	

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: None

Reports:

Treasurers Report:

- Checking Account Balance as of 11/16/2016 was \$1,894.53
- Money Market account as of 11/16/2016 was \$9,850.69
- Mortgage balance is \$2,954.71
- Budget Notes:
 - Mortgage Principle budget zero
 - Memorials budget zero
 - Tourism Annual from \$1,745.00 to \$225.00
 - Hope for 5 car cruises
 - Volunteer Dinner has been donated each year
 - Shared Cost (\$315.00) is expensed in Tourism
 - Losing \$450.00/year from Rotary Hall Rental
 - Telephone is now included with Internet from Charter
 - Deleted "Marquee Advertising Income"
- Treasurers report approved.
- Entrance signs are budgeted \$4,660 per sign, progressing along for installation weather and workload permitting.

Secretary's Report

- October meeting minute notes are missing, will present at January meeting!

Visitors Center

- There will be a volunteer dinner catered at Brick Street Brew to thank our Visitor's Center volunteers for their support this past year.

Merchants

- Victorian Holiday is this weekend, then Hometown Christmas Dec 3rd
- Please like and share upcoming events on your social media sites.

McKendree University—Michele Erschen

- McKendree is having hunger and homelessness awareness week to support the Lebanon food pantry.
- Christmas on Broadway coming to the Hett in December.
- 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, and also looking for a new employee.

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

- 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
- Apr 1, 2017—Save the date for Adult Easter Egg Hunt at The Hills Golf Course and Refuge!
- Jun 10, 2017—Save the date; Third Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament!

Old Business

- 2017 Chamber of Commerce Membership Prices and letter were discussed. Chamber voted to keep membership prices the same for 2017, and add a category for home-based businesses to join the chamber.
- 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

- Discuss Membership Dues price for home-based businesses (per November discussion).
- New Chamber website coming after the Victorian Holiday weekend to be launched in January 2017.
- Rebeca Gabel requested approval for \$600 (in addition to the Victorian Holiday’s \$600) to split the cost for TechKnow Solutions to design our new Chamber Website and get training to update new webpage. \$600 approved for design of new web page plus training.
- Need to establish the chamber event dates for 2017 NLT Jan 31st so we can submit letter to City for applicable street closures.

Around the Table/Open Discussion

- Cedar Ridge sending three patients home thanks to their homeward bound program. Cedar Ridge is also serving dinner for 237 families today!
- Jay Frey from LGP announced Christmas Carol is 8-11 Dec, tickets sell out fast.
- Led Adams announced that the Mermaid House will be open for Victorian Holiday.
- Baron Rana announced that DQ is having an all weekend Black Friday Sale on ice cream.
- Margaret Pearson thanked Pam Martin for her personal time and decorations to decorate the empty Fezziwigs’s windows for Victorian Holiday. Also, a huge thanks to Jodi and the street crew for putting up the lights and decorations on the street poles. There will also be Chicken and Dumplings for sale at the UMC building for Victorian Holiday weekend.
- Pam Martin announced Lebanon Woman’s Club meeting (same night as monthly Chamber meeting).
- Cheri Wright also thanked all for their volunteer efforts for the Victorian Holiday Committee to put together this year’s Victorian Holiday.
- Carrie Christ provided an update on the city entrance signs; 2nd set of blocks is stained and sealed. Doug Johansen is working on signs as work schedule and weather allows.
- Denise Banes is looking for someone else to take over the dessert sale that takes place in the Visitor’s Center basement every year for the Lebanon Victorian Holiday weekend.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 am.

Next Meeting: Jan 26, 2017, at Lebanon Visitor’s Center downstairs at 8:00 am.

//signed//

Rebeca Gabel
Secretary

//signed//

Joe Zimmerlee
President