

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

APEX, Stacy Strieker
CEC, Rebeca Gabel (**Secretary**)
Cedar Ridge Health & Rehab, Ashley Huels
Cedars of Lebanon, Kari Welker
Cedars of Lebanon, Nicole Myers
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc (**Treasurer**)
City Board and Alderman, Cheri Wright
Dairy Queen, Baron Rana (**President**)
Edward Jones, Paul Jansen
Lebanon Advertiser, Susan Meister
Lebanon Matthew Ministries, Jane Cotts
Lebanon Rotary, Jeff Thornton
Lebanon Women's Club, Pam Martin
Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt
Lions Club, Mike Bennett
Looking Glass Playhouse, Jay Frey
McKendree University, Michele Erschen
State Farm, Jessica Zurliene (**Vice President**)
Tiadaughton House, Holly Lovell
Visitor's Center, Joe Zimmerlee

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am at the Visitor's Center by President, Baron Rana.

Invocation given by Mike Bennett

Guest speakers & Introductions of Guests: Welcome to Mark and Lori Henrich from Emerald Mound Grange, and Jane Cotts for Lebanon Matthew Ministries Food Pantry, and Nichole Myer from Cedars of Lebanon

Reports:

Treasurers Report:

- Checking Account Balance as of 04/26/2017: \$3,175.32
- Money Market account as of 04/26/2017: \$11,863.41
- Mortgage balance after \$200 donation from Lions Club: \$1,818.28
- Treasurer's report approved.

Secretary's Report

- March meeting minutes approved.

Visitors Center

- VC has lost a few volunteers. More volunteers are needed to answer the phone and welcome visitors to Lebanon. For more information or to volunteer, call 618-537-8420.

Merchants

- May Market is Saturday, May 6th from 9am-4pm! We've expanded the street closure this year, so we have a few more openings for vendors. For more information, contact Holly at 618-808-0311.
- Merchants are adding a Dickens Fest on Saturday, Sep 23, 2017 with plans to have horse and carriage rides, a bounce house, need to submit for street closure no later than June.

McKendree University—Michele Erschen

- Check out the McKendree Gallery of Art for All Student Show
- McKendree University women's bowling team are celebrating TWO national championships, the NCAA National championship trophy and ITC national championship bowl.
- May 8th is finals week—Commencement on May 13th at 9am and 2pm.
- Convocation Aug 24
- Into the Streets Aug 24
- Call the Hett at 537-6863 for tickets to upcoming events.
- Call 618-537-6873 for tickets and schedules of McKendree sport events.

City (Cheri Wright)

- City is working street closure for May 13th McKendree Commencement

- Pam Kosko is retiring on May 2th, there will be a reception on May 5th for Pam from 10-2, stop by to thank Pam and congratulate her on 24 years of service as Lebanon City Clerk!
- Please feel free to stop by City Hall and welcome our new City Clerk, Luanne Holper.
- Alton and W St. Louis Street will become a no parking area, more to come.
- Raffle Ordinance has been approved, but language is being adjusted by attorney.
- On May 8th, Rick Gale will be sworn in as new Alderman, and Luellen will be sworn in as new City Clerk.
- Liz Hund is heading up effort for historical tree carving to make the large tree stump an attractive improvement to W. St Louis Street. Accepting more ideas for titles on the books, contact Liz at 537-6342 if you have any suggestions.

Website

- It was suggested to look in to Hootsuite to plan out event posts for the year, as well as adding another admin to the chamber Facebook page, TBA. If you are familiar with Hootsuite and would like to volunteer to be backup admin for Chamber Facebook page and schedule Hootsuite posts, let Rebeca know.
- New website is up and running. Please check your member directory information and e-mail Rebeca Gabel if you see corrections that need to be made.
- Chamber news and minutes will be distributed via Constant Contact, please add chamber@lebanonil.us to your contacts to ensure delivery and contact Rebeca Gabel if you need to be added to e-mail distribution list.
- “Like” and share our Lebanon Chamber 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>

Upcoming Events

Apr 6—Sip & Shop
 Apr 20—Lions Hearing Screening at True Value/Prescription Plus
 Apr 20—Lions Blood Drive at St Paul UCC
 Apr 27—Lions Spaghetti Dinner for Lions Camp at St Paul UCC 4:30-7pm
 May 6—May Market
 May 13—Classic Car Cruise
 May 20—Emerald Mound Grange Open House 10am-3pm
 Jun 1—First Queen of Hearts Drawing, every Thursday 7pm at Brewers
 Jun 2—1st Friday Business over Breakfast at Dairy Queen
 Jun 3—City Wide Yard Sale
 Jun 3—Classic Car Cruise
 Jun 10/11—Scott AFB Air Show, Thunderbirds
 Jul 1—Classic Car Cruise
 Jul 7/8—Fireman’s Picnic & Parade
 Aug 5—Classic Car Cruise
 Sep 2—Classic Car Cruise
 Sep 23—Dickens Fest
 Oct 7—Fall Festival
 Oct 14—Classic Car Cruise
 Oct 19-21—Haunted Happenings Looking Glass Playhouse
 Oct 21—Trunk or Treat
 Oct 29—Witches Night Out
 Nov 17-Dec31—Winter Wonderland of Lights
 Nov 17/18—Victorian Holiday
 Dec 2—Hometown Christmas
 Dec 8, 9, 10—A Christmas Carol (LGP)

Old Business

- Lebanon Beautification Committee still working on nonprofit status. More to come, POC John Wright (Tabled)

- Constant Contact; please add chamber@lebanonil.us to your contacts so that

New Business

- Cost/process for advertising events on marquee; got forms from Tami Wilken, we will upload to website so that people can download the forms and request the marquee on the square.
- Lebanon Chamber will Business Over Breakfast (BOB) on the 1st Friday of each month, starting with June 1st, 8am at Dairy Queen. Contact Rebeca Gabel at chamber@lebanonil.us to schedule Member Lunch and Learn/Networking, and Business After Hours
- Chamber has asked Lebanon Woman's Club if they would be willing to take over Desserts in the Basement for Victorian Holiday this year. Proceeds would go to LWC if they take over the event, with a donation to Chamber at discretion of LWC. Pam Martin will present to the LWC and announce at the June chamber meeting if the LWC approves to take over the event.
- Jessica Zurliene requested feedback on the Chamber mission statement, what is on the website and what is in the constitution and by-laws does not match. A committee will be led by the chamber board members to ensure it's updated to match our current mission and update our by-laws and website.

Around the Table/Open Discussion

- Chamber has received an invitation from the Scott AFB Wing Commander for the DV parking and viewing area on Jun 10th or Jun 11th. Invitation is for one person plus four family members or guests to rsvp by Jun 2nd. There will be a drawing at the next chamber meeting on May 25th and the winner will be able to take their family or four guests of their choice. Must be present to enter drawing.
- Cheri Wright on behalf of Miranda Kauffman, requested approval for Girl Scouts to sell the rest of their cookies if possible at the Classic Car Show in May 13th. Approved.
- Emerald Mound Grange will host an Open House on May 20th from 10am-3pm, flyer to come.
- Today is Jay Frey's last meeting with us, as he is moving from Lebanon to be closer to family. Jay has working with the Looking Glass Playhouse and dedicated many years and hours of service to the Visitor's Center and will be greatly missed!
- Al Gerdes will be updating the City of Lebanon website and recalling contacts to make sure they are updated. The Lebanon Historical Society is rehabbing the trolley at Cedar Ridge, donations are needed to cover the costs of the rehab and construction of a cover to protect it from the elements. Eventual goal is to have it downtown, when the square gets renovated. Al is cutting back on APG Enterprises emceeing events, but if chamber needs him for an event give him advanced notice. Winter Wonderland visitor's hut is being repaired, if anyone is interested in helping out, give him a call.
- Kari Welker announced the Cedars of Lebanon renovations are nearing completion! More to come on a Business After Hours (BAH) for chamber to check out the newly improved facilities.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 am.

Next Meeting: May 25, 2017, in lower level of Lebanon Visitor's Center at 8:00 am.

//signed//
Rebeca Gabel
Secretary

//signed//
Baron Rana
President