

Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

CEC, Rebeca Gabel (**Secretary**)
Cedars of Lebanon, Nicole Myers
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc (**Treasurer**)
City Board and Alderman, Cheri Wright
Dairy Queen, Baron Rana (**President**)
Lebanon Advertiser, Susan Meister
Lebanon Matthew Ministries, Jane Cotts
Lebanon Rotary, Jeff Thornton
Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt
Lions Club, Mike Bennett
Looking Glass Playhouse, Len Adams
Lebanon Women's Club, Pam Martin

McKendree University, Michele Erschen
State Farm, Jessica Zurliene (**Vice President**)
Visitor's Center, Joe Zimmerlee
Barbara Joy, Lebanon Winter Wonderland
Whimsey Gifts, Margaret Pearson
Chad Travous, President Artisan Guild of So Illinois

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

Invocation given by Joe Zimmerlee

Guest Speakers & Introductions of Guests: Chad Travous, president of Artisan Guild of Southern Illinois attended the meeting. He is researching potential locations to hold bi-monthly Artisan Guild meetings.

Reports:

Treasurers Report:

- Checking Account Balance as of 5/25/2017: \$1,096.25
- Money Market account as of 5/25/2017: \$11,866.96
- Mortgage balance: \$1,628.61, stop sign \$48.35
- Treasurer's report approved.

Secretary's Report

- April meeting minutes approved.

Visitors Center

- Air conditioner continues to be intermittent, we got a charge on coolant and it was working again for a while. May need to invest in a new air conditioner system soon.
- 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

- Merchants are adding a Dickens Fest on Saturday, Sep 23, 2017 with plans to have horse and carriage rides, a bounce house, and family friendly activities.

McKendree University—Michele Erschen

- 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)

- Mayor is looking at the possibility of annexing areas from the south and east into the city limits
- By May 18th, owner was supposed to start tearing down the condemned building, there is no hazmat, more to come.

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.
- 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

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
Jun 15—Business After Hours hosted by Lions Club 5-7pm at El Rey Sol
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— Lebanon’s Winter Wonderland
Nov 17/18—Victorian Holiday
Dec 2—Hometown Christmas
Dec 8, 9, 10—A Christmas Carol (LGP)

Old Business

- Queen of Hearts Raffle Discussion (tabled until June meeting)
- Constant Contact; please add chamber@lebanonil.us to your contacts

New Business

- Lebanon Women’s Club passed on taking over Victorian Holiday Desserts in Visitor’s Center Basement. Emerald Mound Grange has agreed to take over dessert sales for Victorian Holiday, and will determine how much of proceeds will go to Chamber to pay mortgage and/or necessary maintenance of the Visitor’s Center as needed.
- Festivalnet—do we want to purchase web site link from free events search (\$49/yr)...chamber voted not to at this time.
- RSVP for Scott Centennial Airshow—Rebeca Gabel will use the five passes and represent the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce at the Airshow.

Around the Table/Open Discussion

- Len Adams will now be the POC for Looking Glass Playhouse, as well as requests for the Lebanon Historical Society. Len wanted to thank everyone for their support over the years for the Haunted Tours, but they are being discontinued due to lack of participation/reservations. There will be a children’s show at Looking Glass Playhouse coming up in June. Len also asked that we make sure Classic Car Shows do not conflict with scheduled plays at the Looking Glass Playhouse for patrons to be able to park and enter the theater for scheduled performances.

- Cedar Ridge is having their Summer Fest on Saturday, Jun 10th from Noon to 8pm
- Jeff Thornton from Lebanon Rotary Club announced Sunday, Jun 4, 2-4pm there will be 300 guests at Lebanon Internet Explorers (a joint Scouts and Rotary Project) in recognition of great community service and partnerships
- Lebanon Women's Club is working on Fireman's Picnic Drawings
- Nichole from Cedars of Lebanon announced they will be hosting a Business After Hours to showcase their newly renovated facilities on June 29th!
- Carrie Christ updated everyone on the status of the Lebanon sign north of town coming along.
- Jessica Zurliene announced Back to School Fair initiative to help approx. 165 students who need assistance in getting the necessary school supplies for school year 2017-18. Look for more information on how to sponsor this event which will be held on Aug 23, 2017.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 am.

Next Meeting: Jul 27, 2017, in lower level of Lebanon Visitor's Center at 8:00 am.

//signed//
Rebeca Gabel
Secretary

//signed//
Baron Rana
President