

## Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Antiques, Stephen Jackson  
APEX, Stacy Strieker  
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Inc, Carrie Christ (**Treasurer**)  
CEC, Rebeca Gabel (**Secretary**)  
Cedar Ridge, Lori Thrutchley  
City of Lebanon, Cheri Wright  
Lebanon Matthew Ministries, Jane Cotts  
Lebanon Rotary, Jeff Thornton  
Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt  
Lebanon Women's Club, Pam Martin  
Looking Glass Playhouse, Len Adams  
McKendree University, Michele Erschen  
State Farm, Jessica Zurliene (**Vice President**)  
Barbara Joy, Lebanon Winter Wonderland  
Whimsey Gifts/Pearson Printing, Margaret Pearson

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am at the Visitor's Center by Rebeca Gabel, Secretary

Invocation by Jeff Thornton

**Guest Speakers & Introductions of Guests:** Stephen Jackson joined the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce at today's meeting and announced a grand opening/ribbon cutting for his Antiques store on or about Aug 15th, more to come. We'd like to welcome Steve and his business partner Robin to the brick street, and look forward to welcoming their businesses to Lebanon!

### Reports:

#### **Treasurers Report:**

- Checking Account Balance as of 7/26/2017: \$1,425.12
- Money Market account as of 7/26/2017: \$11,871.94
- Mortgage balance: \$1,244.93
- Treasurer's report approved.

#### **Secretary's Report**

- June meeting minutes approved.

#### **Visitors Center**

- Betty Ford donated \$1,000 in memorial to her husband, William Ford. Carrie Christ sent a thank you card and chamber will place a plaque on bench.
- On Aug 1, 9am, there will be a religious music video being filmed in front of Dr. Jazz. Set extras in 1940's attire and classic cars are welcome. For questions or more information, contact Mr. Robert Schaefer at 618-713-6463.
- On Thursday, Aug 3 at 10am, the Director of Tourism for the State of Illinois, Cory Jobe, will be here for about 30 minutes to take a tour of the brick street, take some film footage for Facebook and future online marketing and to promote Dickens Fest and Brick Street Car Show. Please feel free to join us for the tour if you are available!

#### **Merchants**

- Dickens Fest coming soon on Saturday, Sep 23, 2017 with plans to have horse and carriage rides, a bounce house, and family friendly activities. Len Adams and another volunteer from the Historical Society have graciously agreed to ride in the carriages and give a historical tour of Lebanon on the route for visitors!

#### **McKendree University—Michele Erschen**

- Call the Hett at 537-6863 for tickets to upcoming events, new season on McKendree website and Facebook  
Call 618-537-6873 for tickets and schedules of McKendree sport events
- Gallery of Art invites all artists to: Get Out! Paint Out! Aug 8 from 4:00-6:00; exhibit of works will be held on Aug 17-Sept 17 with public reception Aug 31 from 5:00-8:00 pm. Find registration online.

- Aug 26<sup>th</sup> will be McKendree Into the Streets volunteer event
- Sep 29<sup>th</sup> will be McKendree Homecoming

#### **City (Cheri Wright)**

- City is asking attorney to simplify and shorten raffle application forms
- At tree fell during the storm that already needed to be taken down, so it worked out for the best
- Still pending demolition of Brad and Deb's building, issue is going back to judge, court order says demolition must start by Aug 15th, very slow process.

#### **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](mailto: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**

Aug 1—9am, Religious Music Video Filming at Dr Jazz... video extras in 1940's apparel welcome!  
 Aug 3—10am, walking tour starting at Visitor's Center with Director of Tourism for State of Illinois  
 Aug 5—Lakers Classic Car Cruise  
 Aug 24—McKendree students move-in day on campus  
 Aug 26—McKendree students Into the Streets community service day  
 Aug 29—11am to 2pm McKendree Involvement Fair, contact Craig Robertson at 537-6315 to participate  
 Sep 2—Lakers Classic Car Cruise  
 Sep 23—Dickens Fest  
 Oct 7—Fall Festival  
 Oct 14—Lakers 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**

- None

#### **New Business**

- We need a new chair for the Lebanon Victorian Holiday committee. Christina Dickey will train a new chair this year, and coordinate the live entertainment, but not the entire event as in the past. Rebeca Gabel will still coordinate the Visitor Center ticket sales and carriage ride runner volunteers. Please contact Christina Dickey at 830-8919 or Rebeca Gabel at 618-610-2509 as soon as possible if you are willing to chair Lebanon Victorian Holiday and get the training/planning started in August!

#### **Around the Table/Open Discussion**

- Back to School Fair—Jessica Zurliene working, it is almost here!
  - o Lebanon Education Foundation has donated \$1,000 to ensure each of the students K-5 receive a backpack.

- Donations are still needed to fund the remaining \$623 that Jessica and her husband have fronted for the efforts. If you can provide additional support make checks payable to Lebanon Chamber of Commerce and drop off at the State Farm office in town. Thank you to the business and private donors who have made this event possible! Flyers will be distributed to parents to recognize their support for the Back to School Fair
- 100% of supplies will be available for K-5 students on the needs list, program may grow next year
- Businesses who want to be at their table at the event will receive additional instructions from Jessica Zurliene on setup time for Aug 3rd
- Stephen Jackson Antiques will be opening some time in August, possible grand opening around Aug 15th. He and Robin Shcultze of the Robin's Nest will have two shops at 207 W St Louis St. We would like to welcome them to the chamber!
- Margaret Pearson announced that Adam Tournier is renting space in Aunt Bee's for yoga
- Lori announced that there are some long-term beds available at Cedar Ridge. Also:
  - Cedar Ridge is hosting a First Responder lunch tomorrow (Jul 28) and lunches can be delivered to first responders who cannot leave their work locations.
  - Cedar Ridge Fall Fest will be held on Oct 14, same day as Lakers Classic Car Cruise.
  - Cedar Ridge fountain rehab is complete, it looks great and now has lights!
- Stacy Strieker announced APEX is offering free screenings for sports to assist with either treatments or recommendations to see a doctor. APEX also accepts Tricare insurance for military retirees.
- Jane Cotts announced that the Rotary Club has donated \$500 for bread and eggs to be offered at the Lebanon Matthew Ministries food pantry. LMM hopes to offer milk at some point if donations will support!
- Pam Martin announced the Lebanon's Woman Club will meet next in September, more to come on location and details.
- Jeff Thornton from Lebanon Rotary Club announced that the new year for Rotary begins each July. This year the Rotary plans to partner with the community to plant a minimum of 25-50 trees as part of their global initiative for the environment, and they welcome suggestions for where to plant the trees. Jessica Zurliene recommended some shade trees at the soccer fields at the school. For more information or suggestions for where to plant some trees, contact Jeff at 618-530-4447.
- Led Adams from Looking Glass Playhouse and Lebanon Historic Society announced that LGP brochures for the new season are pending.
  - Mermaid House will be open for tours for Dickens Fest on Sep 23
  - Len and one other Historic Society member will be available to narrate historical facts on the carriage rides! Will work with Rebeca and carriage company to work out route so they can prepare appropriate tour remarks for route.
  - Historical Society meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7pm at the Mermaid House
- Barb Joy from Lebanon Winter Wonderland (LWW) announced that they are meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month gathering new ideas for lights and displays for the 2017 season.
- Margaret announced a Christmas in July sale at Whimsey Gifts with 25% discounts, stop on by!

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:57 am.**

Next Meeting: Aug 24, 2017, in lower level of Lebanon Visitor's Center at 8:00 am.

//signed//  
Rebeca Gabel  
Secretary

//signed//  
Jessica Zurliene  
Vice President