

June 28, 2018

## Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Atomy, Rebeca Gabel ( <b>President</b> )	Lebanon Public Library, Ramona Witte
State Farm, Jessica Zurliene ( <b>Vice President</b> )	Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Carrie Christ ( <b>Treasurer</b> )	Looking Glass Playhouse, Len Adams
City of Lebanon, Cheri Wright ( <b>Correspondence</b> )	O'Fallon Weekly, Nick Miller
Meridith Funeral Home, Brenda Pehle ( <b>Secretary</b> )	Tiadaghton House, Holly Lovell
Cedars of Lebanon, Tonie Moore	Tiadaghton House, Joy Lovell
Dairy Queen, Baron Rana	Visitor's Center, Joe Zimmerlee
Foundry Café and Market, Stephanie McPeek	Volunteer Coordinator, Melissa "Missy" Mitchell
Emerald Mound Grange, Mindy Schiefer	
Emerald Mound Grange, Charles Treser	
Lebanon Winter Wonderland, Barbara Joy	
Lebanon Advertiser, Susan Meister	

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 am at the Visitor's Center by Rebeca Gabel, President.

Joe Zimmerlee led invocation.

### Reports:

#### **Lebanon School District #9**

- None

#### **Treasurers Report**

**(Handout)**

- Balance as of 6/26/2018 Checking: \$1,399.70; Money Market: \$53,734.46.
- Queen of Hearts increased to \$38,360.00 with the Chamber take being a floating \$9,500.00
- Carrie reiterated that the delay with signage is due to Doug Johansen's busy schedule.

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

- May Minutes were approved with confirmation that Al Gerdes was present (Rebeca/Carrie)

#### **Visitor's Center**

- Joe reported hail damage to the Visitor's Center from recent weather, and that the insurance company issued a partial payment for \$7,500 for roof repair. Martin Roofing was called to bid the work; motion made/second to proceed (Sue/Rebeca)
- Carrie is arranging for volunteer workers Sam Schaal and Josh Wittom to clean the exterior building.
- Joe suggested (replacement of the) broken bench and pointed to several chairs against the wall, free for the taking from the recent shed clean-up.

## **Merchants**

- Holly announced Christmas in July to be held, Saturday, July 21, from 7 am – 5 pm. Rebeca will make a flyer and asked participating merchants let her know what they are planning for the publicity piece. The Rock Find is part of the event. 2000 snowflake rocks will be hidden around town, with prizes awarded for some of the rocks.

## **McKendree University**

- No report.

## **City - Cheri Wright**

- The grocery store discussion is ongoing. Rich is waiting for more exact figures. If/when it is completed, they plan to break ground September 1, 2018 and anticipate completion March 15, 2019. The complications center around the road which does not belong to the City.
- Cemetary culverts will be going into (Rogers Street).
- “No Outlet” signage will be going in at Roger Drive and Merrill to reduce vehicular turn-around in the driveways of residents.

## **Website**

- Rebeca asked members to provide information about events and activities to share and boost coverage in the community. She also reminded us that the volunteer position for administrator for the Facebook page is available.

## **Upcoming Events - Additions to the calendar:**

- Reviewing the calendar, it was noted that the Fireman’s Picnic is out of date order.
- St. Paul UCC’s Anniversary Celebration, September 9, is to be added.
- The Chamber and Grange are partnering to host a small vendor fair on Saturday, August 18, from 10 am – 4 pm, to include games and food. Businesses will be able to come at 9am to set up. Motion/second to charge a nominal fee of \$20 per vendor that includes Chamber membership for the remaining calendar year (Carrie/Brenda). The hope is that the incentive increases overall membership in the coming year. The Library has pledged a display, and Girl Scouts have been contacted to provide child care.
- Emerald Mound Grange moved BBQ from July 19 to July 17. They will hold a pork steak dinner August 19.

## **Old Business**

- Beautification Committee’s first phase work for a serpentine path on the northwest quadrant has been delayed until Earthtones is able to free up the equipment necessary for volunteers to cut the path.
- Inquiry with City alderman and Mayor regarding building restrictions on the Quad has not yielded any records that prevent a housing structure for the planned trolley restoration. It was suggested that the matter be addressed with the Planning Commission. Len will take it up with the Historical Society.
- November 1 is week 52 for the Queen of Hearts. O’Fallon had a winner and Aviston paid out over \$One Million recently.

## **New Business**

- Jim Pier is collecting an additional \$50 from classic car owners; an open Visitor’s Center and availability of bathrooms is additional promotion of the seasonal monthly car shows.

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

- O'Fallon Weekly ribbon cutting will be held outside the Visitor's Center front doors following Chamber meeting.
- Rebeca Gabel's skin care company Atomy is holding a seminar July 8 at 6 pm to promote and demonstrate the line of products in the St. Louis area. She is available for free facials.
- Cheri said the Girl Scouts will have a chalk walk day July 9 (rain day August 6) from Monroe to Hwy 4, marking sidewalks except where the sidewalk is covered.
- Ramona reported eight children present for opening day of the Library summer reading program, and no one attending the second gathering. The Library is hard at it building a base for the program, and hopeful for good attendance at the July 18 closing program, featuring a magician.
- Holly announced that Tiadaghton House will celebrate 5 years of business on August 25 and have door prizes throughout the day.
- Baron made note that the DQ Treat Day for Children's Miracle Network will be August 7 (not July 27).
- Mindy shared that the Grange is holding Junior Grange Day Aug 4 from 1-4 pm, Native American Theme, artifacts will be on display
- Len said in celebration of the Illinois Bicentennial, Lebanon Historical Society will be showcased at the O'Fallon Community Park, with Mark Godwin demonstrating trains and Len speaking about Dickens. The United Methodist Church has provided them space to organize articles and is searching for articles Dona Monroe may have distributed in earlier years. There will be a virtual tour of the Mermaid House on July 19, which suffered no loss or damage from the Memorial Day break in. Could it be the resident ghosts scared the intruders away? Madagascar closes the Looking Glass season. The Theatre will hold a choreography day for children July 28. Lastly, Len conveyed frustration with chaotic clash between Car Cruise traffic and Wizard audience and appealed for better communication with events; Carrie and Cheri offered to work with the Playhouse to plan better for next year.
- Nick introduced his wife, Annabelle, and Angela Simmons, who both write for the O'Fallon Weekly.
- (Barb Joy relayed that a two-year contract has been signed to continue Lebanon's Winter Wonderland at Horner Park
- Janet commented there (is need for) feet of the street, shop local!
- Jessica said The Chapter One Project will be providing supplies for all 256 Lebanon school children, and that they need \$7000.00 additional funds. Supplies will be distributed to students at the second annual Back to School Fair on Aug 9<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 pm.) Volunteers are welcome to hand out supplies.

### **Meeting Adjourned at 9:23 am.**

Next Meeting is July 26 at 8:30am, in lower level of Lebanon Visitor's Center.

//signed//

Brenda Pehle, Secretary

//signed//

Rebeca Gabel, President

**Note:** Chamber news and minutes are 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 our e-mail list. 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:  
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