

July 25, 2019

## Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Visitors' Center, Missy Mitchell ( <b>President</b> )	Legendary Creations, Janet Schmitt
Robin's Nest Antiques, Robin Schultze ( <b>V President</b> )	McKendree University, Michele Erschen
Christ Bros. Asphalt, Carrie Christ ( <b>Treasurer</b> )	Rocking R, Linda Reibold
City of Lebanon, Cheri Wright ( <b>Correspondence</b> )	State Farm Ins., Jessica Zurliene
Meridith Funeral Home, Brenda Pehle ( <b>Secretary</b> )	Tiadaghton House, Holly Lovell
Cedars of Lebanon, Carrie Walker	Visitors' Center, Joe Zimmerlee
Emerald Mound Grange, Mindy Schiefer	Visitors' Center Volunteer, Bob Lee
Gateway East Trails, George Fero	Guest: Dale Deverick

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am at the Visitors' Center by Missy Mitchell, President.

Joe Zimmerlee offered prayer to begin the meeting.

Brief introductions were made before Dale Deverick, representing Greenville Radio Station WGEL, 101.7FM, pitched all the advantages of radio time over other advertising formats: affordability, fastest growing and highest reaching media, broad audience/demographic and strong influence. Dale provided a rate reference sheet and statistical data (copy available upon request) and coverage of country western station to nearby Bond, Madison, Fayette and Montgomery Counties.

### Reports:

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

- June Minutes, prepared by Robin with Missy and Rebeca, were approved (George/Carrie C).

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**(Handout)**

- The General Fund balance, with designated project funds, is \$4,935.10; MM contains \$28,317.35. Carrie will check into necessity of Dishonesty Ins. Policy since Chamber no longer conducts Queen of Hearts raffle sales. Report approved (Brenda/Cheri).

#### **Visitors' Center**

- Fire Extinguishers have been serviced.
- Rental of the Visitors' Center basement space has increased in recent months; utilities will be monitored for higher costs.
- Missy is looking for someone to fill the role of volunteer coordinator; she is organizing an appreciation brunch for Visitors' Center hospitality volunteers, to be held Tuesday, August 13.

#### **Merchants**

- Witches Night Out is the next big event; website is getting crazy big numbers of views and likes!
- Robin's Nest 2<sup>nd</sup> year anniversary is August 7<sup>th</sup>; Robin will mark the milestone with shop specials on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **McKendree University**

- The streets around campus will be jammed Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> when resident students move back into the dorms. Classes begin August 26<sup>th</sup>, and the annual Involvement Fair is August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Hett tickets are now available to the general public.

#### **City**

- Code inspector hire is near official.

- City is still considering options for use of the former Brad & Deb lot.
- George is working on ordinances; Jessica is assigned to building sewer plant.
- Applications for 2020 Census paid positions are available at McKendree; DL and background check are required.
- Last word on the grocery store was a projected mid-July start.

### **Website**

- Via Missy, Rebeca conveyed that the website's backside has been fixed!
- Chamber members are always welcome to coordinate a Business After Hours date.

### **Upcoming Events**

- The Grange will have BBQ Pork Steak dinner August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The Grange and Library will co-host a Magic Show on October 26<sup>th</sup> with a possible second show on October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- St. Louis Billy Wagon food truck will be outside the Cedars August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 11am-12:30pm.

### **Old Business**

- The Chamber Board approved purchase of two green trash canisters for McAllister Park from Queen Funds, for the price of \$1,048.95.
- Board members agreed to meet September 19<sup>th</sup> at 8am to continue work on revising the Chamber Constitution and By-Laws.
- Fun-Raisers Committee has met several times to exchange ideas for future events.
- Missy introduced an idea to promote Lebanon as a City of Arts and Education, with an auction featuring individually painted chairs done by local artists and displayed at merchant store fronts during the months preceding the fundraiser. She passed around a copy of a map/brochure of one to be held in Door County this coming September.
- The date for the Non-profit/Volunteer Fair will be April 25, 2020 at Emerald Mound Grange.

### **New Business**

- Victorian Holiday/Christmas in Lebanon events planning is ongoing, with sponsorship slots now being sought.

### **Around the Room**

- Joe passed around one copy of the upcoming Tourism Times.
- He added Grit and Tonic is getting closer to opening; the new restaurant will feature weekend service of upscale drinks and small bites.
- George shared that the Bike Trail road repairs are set to be done by volunteers: forms for the concrete replacement path will be set September 13 - 15<sup>th</sup>; concrete will be poured the following weekend to replace 400' of trail, September 20 - 21<sup>st</sup>.
- He added that the Library Board voted to form its own district; the resolution will be filed at the County Courthouse on August 7<sup>th</sup> to be effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. A new seven-member Board will be appointed by the Court.
- 14 are registered for AARP Safe Driver Course which starts today.
- Mindy announced the Grange will host a Small Business Vendor Fair on June 27, 2020.
- Carrie Walker reported that The Cedars' is expanding its parking area tomorrow.
- Bob mentioned that Belleville Swansea Moose Club programs benefits abused and neglected children. He said Scott Credit Union has interest in offering scholarships to visual arts majors.
- Jessica is moving forward with Chapter 1 Back to School on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and invites all to follow the Facebook page. The Fair runs 2-9pm; contact her if you are interested in helping.
- Linda said Randy will be back in 5 weeks and she is counting the days.

- Holly said a recent rug class offering has been cancelled. Tiadaghton House celebrates 6 years on the Brick Street on August 31st, a party is planned for September 21st.
- Buhl's Auto Repair is listed for sale with a realtor; a website offers information about the building.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 22nd, 2019 at 8:30am in the lower level of the Visitors' Center. Meeting adjourned at 9:27am.

//signed//

Brenda Pehle, Secretary

//signed//

Melissa Mitchell, 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, [rebeca.gabel@gmail.com](mailto:rebeca.gabel@gmail.com), 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: [www.facebook.com/lebanonchamberof commerce](http://www.facebook.com/lebanonchamberofcommerce)