

July 23, 2020

## Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Atomy/Victorian, Missy Mitchell ( <b>President</b> )	Gateway East Trails, George Fero
Robin's Nest, Robin Schultze ( <b>Vice-President</b> )	Lebanon Winter Wonderland, Barb Joy
Meridith Funeral Home, Brenda Pehle ( <b>Secretary</b> )	McKendree University, Michele Erschen
Atomy, Rebeca Gabel	Rocking R, Linda Reibold
City of Lebanon, Cheri Wright	Sure Shot, Tony Barrale
Emerald Mound Grange, Mindy Schiefer	Tiadaghton House, Holly Lovell
First Federal, Tiffany Suydam	Visitors' Center, Joe Zimmerlee
Fit 4 All, David Tate	
Forward Motion/Friends, Belinda McAllister	

President Missy Mitchell called the meeting to order at 8:31am with members attending in person and via Zoom. Joe Zimmerlee gave the invocation.

### Reports:

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

(Attachment)

- Minutes from June's meeting were approved (Rebeca/Janet).

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

(Attachment)

- Carrie provided notes:
- The GF borrowed \$4000. 7/13/2020 from Beautification to cover HVAC bill; Carrie will keep record of the interest (.75) lost. Brefeld's bill was \$4950. Repairs to damage in women's restroom are near completion. Insurance paid \$1716.95.
- Chamber received \$600. In memorials in honor of Betty J. Cornell Joe ordered a name plate for the plaque.
- GF is in the red with loan, but Carrie will watch and make sure it is handled appropriately and responsibly.
- Treasure's report approved (Brenda/George).

#### **Visitors' Center**

- Joe elaborated on the damage to the women's restroom, repairs and better access to the ceiling unit, with hope that insurance will cover remaining expenses less the \$500. deductible,
- Bob Kunz owns land around Emerald Mound Grange and has offered to come and speak to us about the Mound.
- Missy repeated call for more volunteers to fill open slots and substitute as people age out of the hospitality role that is so vital for welcoming the variety of visitors, shoppers and parents of McKendree students and individuals looking for a place to live.

#### **City**

- No report.

#### **McKendree University**

- Fall semester starts one week earlier this year, with classes beginning August 24<sup>th</sup>, breaks for Thanksgiving on November 24<sup>th</sup> and finishes with online finals. Students will return to campus one week earlier in January.
- Students coming from outside the U.S. will quarantine for the recommended period. Students will be provided with reusable face coverings and required to wear mask.
- At this time, it is unlikely students will start the year with "Into the Streets"; on-campus visitors are likely to be limited to safeguard health of campus population.

## **Merchants**

- Holly reported that Christmas in July starts tomorrow with special sales and Mangiamos is offering a Christmas menu. O'Fallon's Chamber is holding Christmas in July this weekend as well.
- August 5<sup>th</sup> is the next Market and hours will be extended to 8pm.
- Mangiamos is collecting hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes for school, supplying a treat to all donors.
- Robin's Nest will celebrate three years on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Tiadaghton House mark will seven years since opening during the second week of September.

## **Website**

- Rebeca pointed to Heirloom Soap's new page, as well as the Events and Member Log In and stressed use of social media for Chamber and business promotion.
- The first two weeks of Bingo yielded two winners from five cards. Shops are encouraged to promote Bingo for increased visits and appeal to shoppers.

## **Upcoming Events**

- July 30 is a scheduled Board Meeting. The agenda will include nominations and fundraising.
- Lakers Classic Car Cruise is a go, as well as Market Day. Trunk or Treat will not be held but Witches Night Out is still a possibility. Lions Club has asked the Chamber to run the Queen of Hearts again.
- David Tate's sponsored 5K will run October 17 with a Halloween theme and festival atmosphere. Participants will be encouraged to wear a mask and/or costume, and there will be events for kids and all levels of runners and walkers.
- The Grange will have a Food Trailer Truck August 6-8 from 10am-5pm and a BBQ on August 10, from 4-7pm. Their Pumpkin Festival will be October 3 with games and pumpkins and mums for sale.

## **Old Business**

- Planning for the Golf Tourney continues with need for committee members and volunteers on the day of the event.
- New lighting installation may be hampered with present electric conditions. Still, lighting for Victorian Holidays and Christmas season needs addressing.
- Ad spaces for the O'Fallon Weekly are being finalized.
- Constitution/By-Law article regarding payment of membership was further revised before voting:

## **ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP**

- 3. Annual dues must be paid by the end of the month of a member's enrollment date.*
- 4. Reminder and notification of non-payment will be made via email or by other written method.*
- 5. When any member is in default in the payment of dues for a period of two months from enrollment date, that member will be considered terminated.*

Discussion included suggestion for a membership card with calendar year and option for auto-renewal. Revision to Article I. Membership approved/passed (Rebeca/Belinda) with one nay.

## **New Business**

- Scott AFB is accepting nominations for Honorary Commanders until August 1.

## **Around the Room**

- Tony announced Glow Ax and Throw the last Friday/month, \$25 per person, from 6-10pm. Reservations (booked on-line) are required as space is limited to 20 participants per hour. During the down time, he has made numerous modifications inside the building and adding new events TBA. They are also gearing up for deer season.
- With cancellation of annual firemen's picnic and lost revenue, Robin has a change jar in the store, accepting donations for LEMFD.
- Belinda shared that Friends of McAllister Park is a new Chamber member.
- Rebeca pointed to Atomy on-line for shopping many daily use items as an alternate to big box stores.

- George touted Gateway Trails moving forward with new maps for the Visitors' Center and noted Lebanon is on local and state bike routes. They are excited about graphic art possibilities through a new member. In coming weeks, there will be cycling for parents available on-line.
- Len gave note to Rebeca to read – 1) Historical Society is moving right along with the trolley renovation. 2) Looking Glass Playhouse is working on installing/painting the new stage. 3) The kids show went well (online). 4) LGP is exploring other online options for upcoming shows if pandemic continues to keep LGP shut down.
- Janet mentioned murals “drive through” to prevent traffic stopping during Lebanon’s Winter Wonderland, and possibility that volunteers will not be able to be out there to take donations this year if Covid-19 continues to be an issue.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48am.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2020 at 8:30am.

//signed//

Brenda Pehle, Secretary

//signed//

Missy 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. 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:

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