

First Federal, Tiffany Suydam (P)
Meridith Funeral Home, Brenda Pehle (S)
Rotary, Jeff Thornton
Gateway Trails, George Fero
Lions Club, Susie Stevenson
Member, Janet Schmitt
Member, Joe Zimmerlee
City of Lebanon, Mayor Cheri Wright
Hangar 18, Amanda Dontigney

Fit 4 All, David Tate (VP)
Visitors' Center, Marie Fero
Robin's Nest, Robin Schultz
Garden Club, Peg Gerdes
Lebanon Schools, Missy Mitchell
Member, John Wright
Scott AFB Liaison, Christine Spargur
SBDC, JoAnn May

Tiffany called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. Robin led prayer which was followed by introductions.

Reports

Minutes May minutes were approved (John/Missy).

Treasurer Report General Fund balance is \$2,536.90; Money Market has \$22,525.57. Queen of Hearts Pot pushed past \$12,000.00 last week.

Visitors' Center A decision was made to close VC on Tuesdays for lack of volunteer staffing and because foot traffic is low and most storefronts are closed.

City Committee is moving forward to apply for an added 1% sales tax in business district including Madison St./W. St. Louis St./Belleville St., effective January 1, 2024 if passed before September 30. The increased income of \$300,000.00 will be available for infrastructure needs: sidewalks, lighting, etc. Merchants included in conversation are favorable of the tax hike. The City is also working on ordinances pertaining to derelict cars.

McKendree University No report.

Merchants No report.

2023 Events:

No date as yet for Alien Fest.

(Correction) Tiadaghton will celebrate 11th year of business in Lebanon.

Old Business

Queen of Hearts – Volunteers still needed should the drawing continue into summer.

Print Materials – 100 Events sheets distributed; Margaret is working on tri-fold; 30 spots are filled on the revised map that has gone to print first draft. Discover Illinois promo is worth a 15% cost savings.

New Business

Bowling fundraiser is slated for September 23; lane sponsorship is available for \$20.00. The six lanes will be open for two shifts of three person teams.

SBDC – JoAnn May spoke of small business start-up, development and expansion opportunities and grant programming that they offer from the metro east development center. Lebanon will host a small business start-up workshop from 3-5pm on September 20 in basement of the VC.

Around the Room

Missy announced that Dr. Amanda Garney from Mascoutah and McKendree alumnus was hired as LCSD superintendent. She is looking for a new coordinator for the O'Fallon Weekly monthly ad page.

George said Gateway is working on Lebanon!Let's Ride, and there will be no committee meetings on July 3 for the holiday.

Marie wondered about the O'Fallon Weekly and Herald as they are no longer being delivered to the VC.

Peg reported that the Garden Tour was a great success.

John lamented that the corner shop renter is not renewing their lease in August and voiced concern that businesses that do not keep regular hours and closed store fronts don't bring shoppers into town.

Christine expressed thanks for Air Show support and announced the next class of honorary commanders is commencing.

Robin said she is reopening Thursday thru Saturday and hopes to add Wednesday over the summer months.

Susie publicized the Lions Club Blood Drive on July 18.

Brenda asked for a volunteer to take minutes for the July meeting.

David asked about corner lots with intention of expanding Christmas decorations to call attention to shoppers and Winter Wonderland visitors (Peg has garage full of lights to share from LWW overstock).

Tiffany shared that Fireman's picnic and parade planning is underway; applications will be sent through email.

No Board meeting is planned for June 29.

Meeting adjourned at 845am. The next meeting is July 27, 2023, with a return to the 8:30am start time.

//signed//

Brenda Pehle, Secretary

//signed//

Tiffany Suydam, President

Note: Chamber news and minutes are distributed via Constant Contact. Please add chamber@lebanonil.us to your contacts to ensure delivery. Contact Rebeca Gabel, 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)