

## Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Meeting

July 27, 2023

First Federal, Tiffany Suydam **(P)**  
Rotary, Jeff Thornton  
Gateway Trails, George Fero  
Member, Janet Schmitt  
Member, Joe Zimmerlee  
City of Lebanon, Mayor Cheri Wright  
Fit 4 All, David Tate **(VP)**  
Garden Club, Peg Gerdes

Robin's Nest, Robin Schultze  
Tiadaghton House, Holly Lovell  
Member, John Wright  
Scott AFB Liaison, Christine Spargur  
Christ Bros., Carrie Christ **(Tres)**  
Cedar Ridge Nursing Home, Ashley Huels  
Guest, 114<sup>th</sup> State Representative Kevin Schmidt  
Guest, Legislative Asst, 114<sup>th</sup> Dist. Office, Monica Gard

Tiffany called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Robin led prayer which was followed by introductions.

### Reports

*Minutes* June minutes were approved (Robin/George) with the following changes: Tiadaghton House 10<sup>th</sup> year, and Sept 9 is 'Let's Ride Lebanon' event not 'rodeo'

*Treasurer Report* General Fund balance is \$1,275.62; Money Market has \$26,144.50. Queen of Hearts Pot was \$14,666.00 last Thursday. Approved (Robin/Cheri)

*Visitors' Center* Joe Z. shared a book donated by Barb & Joe Cioni about St. Clair County. It has been flagged for interesting items about Lebanon and its residents and now contains a sheet of notes to help browse the volume. Light switch was repaired in restroom. Elaine Fohne has been hired to replace Mary Weil for cleaning the Center.

*City* Mayor announced that Business District sales tax of 1% will go into effect Jan 1, 2024. City Hall must complete all paperwork by Sept 30, 2023. TWM presented Alderman with plan for 27 miles of road improvements in Lebanon. TWM will be back 8/7/23 for a public presentation. No oil/chip will take place this year. City saving for next year. Horner Park agreement signed for picnic tables (Park owns/City stores). Gingerales turned in all paperwork. Dollar Tree closing on property mid-August. Ace Hardware looking for approval on large digital sign.

*McKendree* Move in dates for students are between 8/12 and 8/19/23.

*Merchants* Robin reported that Witches Night Out is 10/29/23 starting at 5:00. Will include vendors and food trucks. Victorian Holiday will be two nights, 11/7 and 11/18. Look for coming information.

**New Business** Kevin Schmidt, 114<sup>th</sup> District State Representative spoke about the upcoming (possibly next summer) By-Pass and asked for opinions. IL budget should continue unless economy drops then IL will regroup on spending. Also, asked for other concerns in which he might address. Bowling Fund Raiser – looking for lane sponsors (\$20.00) & teams. Slated for September 23. Contact Tiffany.

### Around the Room

Ashley Huels announced she is back at Cedar Ridge Nursing Home full time and Kenya O'Neil (nee Washington) is the new Administrator. Tours of Trolley Car and BQ coming soon.  
Janet Schmitt – LWW headed south for more lights.

George Fero – Gateway Trails continues to pursue Bike trail. Engineering needed to acquire property; see rendering in Visitors' Center of first mile; 3 miles total costing \$10,000,000.00. Need a fiscal sponsor.  
Peggy Gerdes – Garden Club selling funnel cake fryer if anyone interested. Prepping for Farmers' Market.  
Holly Lovell – Tiadaghton House celebrating 10 years Sept. 9 with free food/drinks/interaction/door prizes.

Jeff Thornton – Rotary is hosted a Disaster Team Training Exercise July 30<sup>th</sup> and will be learning about Clean Water Processing.

John Wright – We are losing Sip/Paint and Steve Jackson Antiques. Looking for a Pizza Restaurant.

Christine SAFB – Training Air Mobility Guardians (see website)

Robin – Robin's Nest has not traffic recently. Hoping to be open Wednesday-Saturdays soon.

Tiffany – Looking for Fireman's picnic banner sponsors and parade entries. Lebanon Athletic Boosters looking for 3 years sponsors instead of yearly. April 19<sup>th</sup> will be Mouse Races. August 28<sup>th</sup> will be Lebanon Day at School with sports galore/food trucks.

Board Meeting August 31

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting is August 24, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

//signed//  
Carrie Christ, Tres.

//signed//  
Tiffany Suydam, 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:

- ❖ Lebanon Chamber Webpage: <http://www.lebanonil.us/>
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