

**Attendees:**

First Federal, Tiffany Suydam (P)  
Fit 4 All, David Tate (VP)  
Christ Bros., Carrie Christ (T)  
Meridith Funeral Home, Brenda Pehle (S)  
Atomy, Missy Mitchell  
CCTK Accounting, Courtney Landerman  
City, Mayor Cheri Wright  
Garden Club, Peg Gerdes  
Gateway East Trails, George Fero  
JCL Apt, Anthony Moore  
Lebanon Ace Hardware, Bill Millikin  
LCUSD 9, Amanda Ganey

Lions Club, Susie Stevenson  
Paisley Place, Rebeca Gabel  
Member, AJ Dontigney  
Member, John Wright  
Member, Joe Zimmerlee  
Rotary, Jeff Thornton  
Tarsha Homestead, Alex Tarsha  
Tarsha Homestead, Emily Tarsha  
Tiadaghton House, Holly Lovell  
Vista Care, Craig Laskowski

President Tiffany Suydam called the meeting to order at 8:30am. Joe Zimmerlee offered prayer. Introductions followed. A 2015 Women's Club calendar went around the table with the suggestion that Chamber consider doing one.

**Reports**

**Secretary's Report**

- Minutes were approved with correction (motion AJ/second Cheri).

**Treasurer's Report**

- Bank balance in handout includes earmarked funds for the Square Park Project (\$1009.83), City Wide Map income (\$4,700.00) and North Signs Project \$1,551.89; it does not include Fall Festival income.
- Special thanks to Lebanon Lions Club, McKendree University, Fall Festival, Merchants, Anthony Moore, and Lebanon Winter Wonderland for the new lighting at the north entry to Lebanon. Additional lighting will be added as holidays get closer. Additional donations are welcome and needed for decorations going up at the Square Park.
- Report approved (motion John/second Missy)

**Visitors' Center**

- Visitors' Center is always looking for additional volunteer staff. Volunteers who currently have multiple shifts are doubly hard to find substitutes for when they are absent.
- Thank you to McKendree Roteract Club for donated pumpkin.

**City**

- Twelve new trash canisters have been delivered; lids will need to be secured before they can be put out.
- LHS Homecoming parade route has been approved for December 1, 2pm.
- Trick or Treat is permitted Tuesday, October 31, from 6-8pm.
- 4.75% tax levy passed.
- City is considering installation of a phone for Council and Committee members to listen to meetings when they can't attend in person. Proposal will be presented to Council on November 13.
- Cheri is seeking letters of support from businesses to include in a grant application that is being worked on.

**McKendree University**

- No report.

**Merchants**

- Witches Night Out is this coming Sunday featuring nine vendors, four food trucks and David Tate's witches brew.
- Victorian Holiday committee is 16 persons strong and planning for a wonderful weekend.

**Upcoming Events Additions/Change**

- Email 2024 event dates to Tiffany and/or Brenda.

**Old Business**

- Print Media: Tri-fold run is being held until January for anticipated changes/updates. City Map is slated to be printed before the year end.

- Square Park Project: Lights and globes have been given to City to put up; wiring and electric are being checked and updated for safety. Old lanterns have been restored and updated for hanging on lamp posts. Committee is using meeting time to make collapsible trees that will adorn the Square. Lebanon Merchants gave \$1000.00 toward the Square Park Project Improvements to be used as committee sees fit. It has been earmarked for the current 'Lighting Project' at the Square and the red lanterns lining the street. Veterans Memorials, paused during COVID, came up; discussions ongoing about Illinois and POW flag and flag for each branch of military service.

### New Business

- More letters were received by Chamber members regarding the building light project, one questioning the consent of building owners to use decorative lights for events/times outside the Christmas season, and blanket permission by donors for use of their donations. Another asked consideration of Brick Street residents before extending lighting to Witches Night Out and other seasonal events. Discussion followed interpreting holidays to include other festivals/seasons, recollection of speaking with every building owner to gain access/permission for installing lights, and weight of complaints coming from two individuals.
- Present day officers and Board members have agreed to stay on for next year; nominations remain open and vote will be at November meeting. Constitution and By-Laws will be revisited for continued workability.
- Chamber was invited to participate in a roundtable on November 1 to rally tourism in Southern Illinois.
- Candlewood Suites has presented discounts for visitors to area.

### Around the Room

- Emily said Tarsha will have pumpkins available over the weekend. They offer overnight hookup services for up to five campers currently.
- George is working with the school to organize a bike rodeo and helmet give away in the spring. He's also working on an idea for a petty cab – a bike pulled carriage service.
- Craig is looking for volunteer opportunities to offer to five residents of a local Vista Care home.
- Rebeca welcomed everyone to Paisley Place for ribbon cutting and Open House,
- Peg said Garden Club seed at library has been put away. She suggested people visit Horner Park to see Winter Wonderland display progress and said that Dona Schieppe (618) 792-2014 is taking names to schedule workers in Santa's heated hut during the holiday season.
- Missy explained that earth is being moved on school grounds for the construction of a new greenhouse and said that Lebanon students welcome community support for their school sports.
- Jeff said Rotary is marking International Polio Day, celebrating the impact of the vaccine worldwide. Annual Milk Raffle, co-sponsored with Don's IGA, is underway.
- Courtney is getting to know the community; she has packets to share while she awaits a store front for the accounting firm.
- AJ said the shop will have a raffle at Witches Night Out.
- Suzi reported Lions Candy Day received \$2,100.00 in donations at Rose Garden intersection, about 1/3 of the previous year's take.
- Cheri asked for Chamber members to provide letters of support for grant monies being applied for.
- Bill reported that ACE progress is ongoing with lighting, shelving and floor plan.
- Dave is working on a Blue Ribbon fundraising idea for the Chamber.
- Tiffany closed with announcement of ribbon cutting for CCTK Accounting and Paisley Place.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28am.

The next meeting is scheduled November 16, 2023 at 8:30am.

//signed//

Brenda Pehle, Secretary

//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/>
- ❖ Lebanon Chamber Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lebanonchamberofcommerce](http://www.facebook.com/lebanonchamberofcommerce)