

## LEBANON BOARD OF FESTIVALS AND TOURISM

Minutes      April 10, 2014

Call to Order: President Mary Alice Leasure, 5:00 PM.

Roll Call: Board Members present - Raye Kimberlin, Phyllis Wyatt, Mary Klei, Darrell Tucker, Mary Alice Leasure. Excused - Michelle Abrams. City Staff - Karen Graves, City Manager Pat Clements. Visitors present – Lebanon City Council-Council Member Stephen Kaiser; Historic Downtown Lebanon Inc. (HDLI)- Jo Wise, Debbie Stevens; Lebanon Optimist Club- Marcia Collopy, Ann Smith, Jack Collopy; Lebanon Rotary Club- Jim Bliss; Dayton Daily News-Larry Budd; Citizen- Penny Windle

Consideration of Minutes, March 13, 2014: Minutes not available.

New Business: Vicky Van Harlingen, Executive Director of the Warren County Historical Society, presented the application for a new summer event, the Lebanon Summer Music Festival, to be held on July 12 and jointly organized by the Lebanon Council of Garden Clubs, the Lebanon Kiwanis Club and the Warren County Historical Society. It was described as family-oriented and "old-fashioned." The festival would differentiate itself from other festivals by having rock bands, food trucks and the location would be nearer to the Historical Society.

A letter from Historic Downtown Lebanon, Inc. (HDLI), bearing today's date, was discussed after Board members received and read it. Lebanon Optimist Club voiced concerns re: date of the new festival creating "festival fatigue," due to close timing of the proposed event and the existing dates of the Blues Festival and Country Music Festival. There is also a concern of the economic impact on existing festivals based on exhaustion of local sponsorships and other matters.

Discussion followed from the Optimist Club and HDLI on the importance of communication between organizations and working together. Vicky Van Harlingen did not think an alternate date would be possible or beneficial to their event. As ex-officio member of the Board, City Manager Pat Clements stated that it is important to work through the application process with the City but this Board should be involved sooner. He said that Board members' hands are not tied by circumstances such as these. The Rotary Club President voiced support for the Optimists, citing too much competition in the same festival category, with timing as the major issue. Further discussion produced no agreement between the parties.

Raye Kimberlin inquired whether Music Festival organizers would lose money in the event of cancellation. The answer was potentially yes, as a non-refundable deposit has already been paid to secure the top band in the amount of \$500. Should the top band not be available for an alternate date, the deposit would be forfeited. Darrell Tucker called the question. Mary Klei explained to the Board her reason for abstaining from the vote was due to perceived conflicts and a matter of conscience.

The vote was:

YEA-Mary Alice Leasure and Phyllis Wyatt

NAY-Ray Kimberlin and Darrell Tucker

ABSTAIN-Mary Klei

Old Business: The Board's email addresses were updated.

Staff Report: A discussion was held concerning the limiting of certain types of festivals and amending or updating the review process.

At 6:15 PM Darrell Tucker moved to adjourn, seconded by Raye Kimberlin. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Klei

Secretary pro tem