

## LEBANON BOARD OF FESTIVALS AND TOURISM

Minutes      Thursday, October 9, 2014

Call to Order: President Mary Alice Leasure, 5:05 PM.

Roll Call: Also present - Liz Clark, Raye Kimberlin, Mary Klei. Excused - Darrell Tucker, Michelle Abrams, Phyllis Wyatt. Visitors - Jiffy Stiles, Cindy Fugate and Kathy Stine representing Country Applefest, Debbie Mulford, Becky George, Jo Wise, Stephen Kaiser of Lebanon City Council, Karen Graves for the City of Lebanon.

The Minutes of May 8 were considered for approval. Motion to approve by Liz Clark; second by Mary Klei. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business: Jiffy Stiles led an informational discussion regarding Applefest's move to the Fairgrounds in 2015. The emphasis throughout was on public safety and overcrowding. Applefest has increased in popularity to the point where the downtown can no longer accommodate the congestion. Fire Department restrictions must be observed. Booths cannot be moved closer together. Emergency vehicles have been impeded from reaching the site where they are needed in some cases. Moving to neighboring residential streets is not an option due to the disturbance factor. Some booth space has been lost to patios on Mulberry. There is currently a waiting list of 65 vendors. City electrical charges keep increasing.

Applefest has been contacted by the Fairgrounds administration and offered a 3-year contract to locate there, keeping the festival close to downtown. Advantages of the move are plenty of attended parking: downtown merchants can operate a shuttle service. The Fairgrounds can accommodate more booths-- 253 as compared to the present 185 downtown. Overnight setup will be available, both indoors and outdoors. Electric rates are more reasonable. Hookups are not a problem. Karen Graves discussed the City's charges. There is more water available. There are full-service restrooms with changing areas. Half the current number of portolets will be needed. The Board of Festivals and Tourism would share Applefest's tent #1. Vendors' parking will be in a separate area. Jiffy Stiles showed a large layout map of the festival area.

Questions and discussion from visitors followed. Parking will be directed by Poff's. Trash pickup is done by volunteers. Applefest will pay rent to the Fairgrounds. Downtown merchants voiced their concerns. Applefest was advised to make sure the Fairgrounds people do a thorough pre-event cleanup. Jiffy Stiles read a list of donations by Applefest to local charities. She emphasized the festival is run by volunteers; after expenses are paid, all monies go to charity.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Klei, Secretary pro tem