

**Board Members in Attendance (term expiration):**

X	Susana Vazquez (2026)	X	Julie Smitherman (2028)
X	Sean Hilty (2026)	X	Kirk Lightfoot (2028)
X	Marissa Wilson (2026)	X	Ken Jones (2028)
X	Stephanie Benitez (2026)	X	Clay Nordan (2028)
	Wesley Hallman (2026)	X	Kathy King (2028)
X	Tonia Mayton (2027)	X	Courtney Bennett (Ex Officio)
X	Patricia Honeycutt (2027)		Mayor Nix (Ex Officio)
	Jackie Chappell (2027)	X	Adele Nelson (Ex Officio)
X	Susan Lehman (2027)		Junior Mayor (Ex Officio)
X	Sarah Hogan Shaw (2027)		MDCD Representative (Ex Officio)

**Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

President Kirk Lightfoot called the meeting to order at 8:07 AM. City Clerk Steve Gilbert, Council Members Lelia Mitchell, Kenneth Dukes, and David King were welcomed as guests.

Minutes were reviewed from the meeting on January 8, 2026. *On a motion by Patricia Honeycutt, seconded by Susan Lehman, minutes were approved as presented.*

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Sarah Hogan Shaw presented a report dated 2/9/26 indicating:

- Income Statement (Profit & Loss for 1/5/26 – 2/9/26): \$26,632.30
- Balance Sheet (as of 2/9/26): \$67,842.82
- Outstanding checks: \$12,957.49
- Net Statement Balance (as of 2/9/26): \$54,450.33

**REVENUE SOURCES**

- **Monte Gras:** \$11,690.23 total this reporting period\*
  - 102 event tickets sold
  - 23 drink tickets sold
  - 109 giveaway tickets sold
  - Sponsorships collected:
    - Parker Law Firm (Green), Bradford Real Estate Group (Green), Montevallo Chamber of Commerce (Green), Team Lehman Realty/Su Casa Real Estate (Green)
  - Unrestricted donations collected:
    - Spring Creek Investments (\$500), McLeod & Associates (\$250)

\* Please note that this is not the final count. Credit card sales from the day of the event have been accounted for; cash and checks will be reflected in next month's report.

- **Membership Dues:** \$1,318.20
  - **Benefactor Level:** Street Fiber Alabama, America's First Federal Credit Union
  - **Supporter Level:** Falcon Art Supply
  - **Individual Level:** Ken Jones, Lelia Mitchell
  
- **Business Basics:** \$95.20
  - 10 tickets sold
  
- **Interest from Commercial Sweep:** \$110.99
  
- **City of Montevallo Annual Contribution:** \$25,000

*On a motion by Patricia Honeycutt, seconded by Susan Lehman, a vote on the financial reports was tabled until March.*

## President's Report

President Kirk Lightfoot noted that the 2nd Annual Monte Gras Ball on February 7 was a great success, and a full financial report will be shared at the March Board meeting. University of Montevallo intern Bex Pickering, a Sociology Major, is working with us this semester. Our annual MOA with Main Street Alabama & Main Street America have been completed for 2025.

## Committee Reports

### Organization Committee:

None.

### Design Committee:

Committee Chair, Julie Smitherman, reported that the committee did not meet this month. Facade Grant Chair Tonia Mayton will start advertising this year's Facade Grants March 1. A new Chair of the Holiday Storefront Decorating Contest is needed--anyone interested is invited to contact Julie.

### Promotion Committee:

Committee Chair, Sarah Hogan Shaw, reported on Blooming Bargains – tulips are starting to bloom and marketing materials highlighting participating businesses have been finalized, Festival opening date TBD; 10 Year Anniversary Celebration update – planning committee has started to meet, and Dixon Designs has created a 10 year logo; Susana doing research regarding potential Community Yard Sale event in May; Bulldog Pride – updated banners will be displayed around town to advertise spring sports; Hometown Hype/Social Media Ambassador Program – currently in a lull, we are in need of assistance with this and will possibly offer a paid internship; 250 Celebration – highlighted at March Chamber Luncheon; all are encouraged to vote for their favorite Montevallo businesses in Shelby Living's Best of the Best.

**Economic Vitality Committee:**

Committee Chair, Ken Jones, reported that Dean Robicheaux from the University of Montevallo Stephens College of Business joined this month's meeting as a guest to discuss partnership and collaboration opportunities; Business Basics continues, with this month's session on legal issues.

**Executive Director's Report**

**Activity Report**

Courtney Bennett reported that she attended the Montevallo Chamber Luncheon and State of the City Address on Jan. 21 and provided printed copies of our 2025 Annual Report and 2026 Workplans Packet; Main Street Alabama Quarterly Training – “Starts and Sparks: Supporting and Growing Entrepreneurs” with Jay Schlinsog, Downtown Professionals Network on Feb. 3; Monte Gras Ball on Feb. 7; and Black History Month Celebration with Youth Banner Project Recognized on Feb. 8. She thanked Susan Lehman for presenting in her stead at Economic Development Day for Leadership Shelby on Feb. 10 due to illness.

**Business Transitions**

- **Opened this month:**
  - n/a
- **Ownership transition:**
  - n/a
- **Opening soon:**
  - n/a
- **Closed this month:**
  - n/a
- **For sale:**
  - 727 Middle Street: call Anna Picklesimer at (205) 229-2499
  - Lot on Island Street for sale or build to suit—listed by Bob Nesbitt, (205) 939-8219
- **For rent:**
  - 440 Middle Street: Call Montevallo Realty at (205) 665-4689
  - 1259 Ashville Road, Suite 600: Call Shoal Creek Realty at (205) 567-9659
  - 1225 Valley Street: Call Shoal Creek Realty at (205) 567-9659

**University of Montevallo Report**

Wesley Hallman reported that University of Montevallo would like to invite all alumni and the Montevallo community to enjoy Homecoming and College Night this week. College Night productions run nightly at 7 p.m. through Saturday night, and the University of Montevallo National Alumni Association will host several events Feb. 13-14.

Visit <https://www.montevallo.edu/alumni/alumni-events/homecoming/homecoming-2026-schedule/> for more information.

**City of Montevallo Report**

City Clerk Steve Gilbert reported on the status of various projects throughout the city.

## Old Business

- 501(c)3: The IRS has approved the application for the Make Your Mark Foundation; effective date of exemption: 9/19/25
  - First Board meeting to be held February 27.
- Container Stage Committee - artist E. Allen Warren is painting exterior of container, planning to complete before Book Fest. Repairs need to be made to the front door before he continues.

## New/Other Business

- The board reviewed Article VIII of their Bylaws and voted to not make any changes to existing language.
- Delores Adkins was recognized for volunteering to install purple and gold bows on downtown street poles in preparation for UM Homecoming/College Night.
- A Black History Month Program will be held on Saturday, February 21 at Parnell Memorial Library from 10 AM - 1 PM. All Board members are encouraged to take a close look at our new Black History Youth Artwork Banners downtown while they are on display.

## Announcements/Upcoming Events

- **February 11 - 14:** University of Montevallo's Homecoming/College Night Celebrations.
- **Wednesday, February 18:** Montevallo Chamber of Commerce will host their monthly luncheon at Parnell Memorial Library. Networking begins at 11:30 AM and lunch (\$15) begins at noon. This month's speaker is Rachel Christine sharing about the new non-profit venture "Made in Montevallo." RSVP by February 13 to [montevallochamber@gmail.com](mailto:montevallochamber@gmail.com) or (205) 665-1519.
- **Sunday, February 22:** Walt Czeskleba Day.
- **Saturday, February 28:** Celebrate Arbor Day with Montevallo Arbor and Beautification Board at the Montevallo Recycling Center (1120 Overland Road)! Bare root seedlings of various tree types will be available for free pickup from 9 AM until 1 PM or until supplies run out.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2026.

*On a motion by Julie Smitherman, seconded by Susan Lehman, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 AM.*

Respectfully submitted, Marissa Wilson, Secretary