

Board Members in Attendance (term expiration):

X	Susana Vazquez (2026)	X	Julie Smitherman (2028)
	Sean Hilty (2026)	X	Kirk Lightfoot (2028)
X	Marissa Wilson (2026)	X	Ken Jones (2028)
X	Stephanie Benitez (2026)	X	Clay Nordan (2028)
X	Wesley Hallman (2026)	X	Kathy King (2028)
X	Tonia Mayton (2027)	X	Courtney Bennett (Ex Officio)
X	Patricia Honeycutt (2027)	X	Mayor Nix (Ex Officio)
X	Jackie Chappell (2027)	X	Adele Nelson (Ex Officio)
	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 and Council Members Lelia Mitchell and Kenneth Dukes were welcomed as guests.

Minutes were reviewed from the meeting on December 11, 2025. *On a motion by Julie Smitherman, seconded by Patricia Honeycutt, minutes were approved as presented.*

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Sarah Hogan Shaw presented a report dated 1/4/26 indicating:

- Income Statement (Profit & Loss for 12/11/25 – 01/4/26): -\$8,610.90
- Balance Sheet (as of 1/4/26): \$41,210.52
- Outstanding checks: \$4,670.27
- Net Statement Balance (as of 1/4/26): \$36,540.25

REVENUE SOURCES

- **Monte Gras:** \$1,552.10
 - 8 tickets sold
 - Sponsorships collected:
 - Carr Allison – Gold Sponsorship
- **Dia de Muertos:** \$75
 - One late vendor fee collected
- **Fundraising:** \$73.50
 - Sale of 7 sets of Bicentennial notecards sold at Meri Moon, minus commission
- **Interest from Commercial Sweep:** \$83.05

On a motion by Patricia Honeycutt, seconded by Jackie Chappell, the financial reports were approved as presented.

President's Report

President Kirk Lightfoot welcomed renewing board members, and reminded the board that all members are encouraged to sell tickets to the Monte Gras Ball on February 7, 2026. A ticket sales and sponsorship update was shared.

Committee Reports

Organization Committee:

None.

Design Committee:

In lieu of Committee Chair, Julie Smitherman, who was unable to attend this month's meeting, Courtney Bennett reported that the Post Office Photo Frame has been updated to recognize the Semiquincentennial thanks to the hard work of John McKinnon and support of Kirk Lightfoot; student groups are in the process of cleaning up their Holiday Storefront displays; Public Works has agreed to assist in the Promenade lighting project before College Night; the Flowerpots on Main Street project will begin closer to the spring; and volunteer Delores Adkins plans to coordinate ribbons on Main Street poles again this year to recognize College Night.

Promotion Committee:

Committee Chair, Sarah Hogan Shaw, reported on the Holiday Elf Scavenger Hunt; 600 tulips have been planted in various locations in town in conjunction with American Village's upcoming Festival of Tulips, with 750 planned for 2027; businesses participating in Blooming Bargains will be announced soon; sponsorships for Friday Nights at the Cove will be reduced to \$250 per event this year to give more businesses a chance to participate; and a 10 Year Anniversary Celebration is being planned for June under the leadership of President-Elect Stephanie Benitez.

Economic Vitality Committee:

Committee Chair, Ken Jones, reported that the Black History Youth Artwork banners co-sponsored by Main Street are being installed downtown for the first time; all are invited to attend Montevallo Legacy Project's 3rd Annual Black History month Celebration at 4 PM at Montevallo Presbyterian Church on February 8; Courtney is finalizing a video to thank CAWACO RC&D for their grant support of CO.STARTERS due on January 9; the committee is awaiting an update on the possibility of a Housing Study conducted in partnership with Main Street Alabama later this year; the committee will reach out to the Cobblestone Hotel Marketing team in order to begin a partnership; Dean Robicheaux with the UM Michael E. Stephens College of Business has been invited to the committee's February meeting, and the committee is awaiting updates regarding Business Basics 2026.

Executive Director's Report

Activity Report

Courtney Bennett reported that she attended the Tree Lighting and Christmas Parade on December 11; Dr. Richardson's Retirement Reception on December 12; Main Street Volunteer & Member Appreciation Party on December 17; and the How to Start A Krewe Workshop on December 18.

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:**
 - 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 Homecoming/College Night will be from February 11-14; renovations at Farmer Food Hall should be complete later this month and will be open to the public.

City of Montevallo Report

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

Old Business

- 501(c)3: Courtney Bennett reported that she will meet with our accountant on January 9.
- Container Stage Committee - artist E. Allen Warren is in the process of painting the container stage and plans to finish prior to Book Fest.

New/Other Business

The board reviewed Article VII of their Bylaws and updated language in sections (a) and (b).

Announcements/Upcoming Events

- Monday, January 19: Shelby County NAACP hosts the 22nd Annual Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration March. Line up at 9:45 AM behind McDonald's for a march that begins at 10 AM. A program follows at 10:30 AM at Montevallo High School. For more information, call (205) 902-5137 or (205) 915-0787.
- Wednesday, January 21: Montevallo Chamber of Commerce hosts their monthly luncheon featuring the Annual "State of the City Address" from Mayor Rusty Nix at Parnell Memorial Library. Networking begins at 11:30 AM and lunch (\$15) begins at noon. RSVP by January 16 to montevallochamber@gmail.com or (205) 665-1519. Sponsored by Trustmark Bank.
- Saturday, February 7: Join us at American Village's Liberty Hall for a night you will never forget! The 2nd Annual Monte Gras Ball, presented by Davidson Law Firm, begins at 6 PM with a cocktail hour, followed by dinner catered by Hey Bebe at 7 PM, and live music by The Swing Kings from 8-10 PM. Cocktail attire and masquerade masks are encouraged. Individual tickets, as well as sponsorships and reserved tables, are now available for purchase. Contact us at (205) 597-9322 or mainstreet@cityofmontevallo.com, or visit <https://montevallo-main-street.square.site/monte-gras-2026>.
- 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 February 12, 2026.

On a motion by Julie Smitherman, seconded by Patricia Honeycutt, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Marissa Wilson, Secretary