

Minutes

COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMISSION

Thursday April 13, 2023

5:30 P.M.

VILLAGE HALL – COMMITTEE ROOM

801 BURLINGTON AVENUE

DOWNERS GROVE, IL

Present: Nicole Szydowski, John Aguzino, Jessica Bzdyl, Taylor Sommers

Guests: Erin Venezia, Dave Gardner, Barbara Taylor, Jay Turner

Staff: Jennifer Rizzo

Absent: Michael Puzen, Theresa Kulat, DJ Fiore

Approval of August 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes - Motion to Approve – John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

Public Comment – No public comment

New Business:

Downers Grove YMCA – Farmers Market

Barbara Taylor = Opens Mother's Day weekend May 13th, to October 21st, at this about 58 vendors have signed up. Which is close to last year. Have not complete come back from the pandemic. Windy Acres, will not be back, so we will have additional farmers this year. Otherwise everyone else will be back.

Musician's lined up 15-20 have signed up for 48 slots. There is a new market manager. But her and Jay are long time for board members and will be helping. Jay Turner spoke about the vendors cannot get staff. Talked about the relocation during the Rotary Fest to Main St. Getting less vendors signing up for that Saturday, in future years might consider skipping that weekend. Ms. Rizzo mentioned that back when we had Heritage Fest that the market that weekend was held at the YMCA location. She asked if there was any thought about returning there. Ms. Taylor advised, vendors don't like that, the YMCA is so busy in the summer that the parking lot will not work. It would not be successful. People like it being downtown. They did not increase the fees for this year. To help the vendors. Ms. Taylor advised about posting the Friday before showing who is coming to the market on social media. Ms. Venezia and Ms. Rizzo spoke of how the Downtown Management and the Village E-News helps promote the market. Ms. Rizzo reminds Ms. Taylor and Mr. Turner that the vendors are allowed to park anywhere downtown they can fit their vehicles.

Motion to approve: John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

Downers Grove Moose Lodge #1535 – Car Show

Dave Gardner = same format as last year Lot A and closing Warren Ave from Main to Forest. The event will run May 26th to September 1st, 4-8 pm. This year they will be judging cars and trying to get more sponsors. Try to make it a family event and get the kids out. This helped with membership which increased by 400 last year. Last year they raised \$4,000.00. Mr. Gardner lists a group for every week of a non-for-profit. Mr. Gardner present pictures of some of the events last year. Including FISH Pantry with a picture of Mr. Aguzino. Has advertised with multiple car show websites. Ms. Venezia and Ms. Rizzo also mentioned that they do the same for the Moose Lodge as they do for the Farmers Market.

Motion to approve: Jessica Bzdyl & Second Taylor Sommer

Downtown Management – Friday Night Live

Erin Venezia = Last year in partnership with the car show we are continuing with this arrangement. We have a wait list of bands. Lots of bands are coming back. Music will be from 5:30 – 8:00. They pay the bands to play. They perform at the depot. Small crowds stand by and watch. Some people bring lawn chairs. Mr. Gardner explains that this has been a good partnership and that many people want to know who is playing at the train station. So they started posting the lineup. Ms. Szydowski asked if any feedback from the businesses. Ms. Venezia said all positive. Well received overall. A lot more advertising with various magazines. A question was asked about demographics at the car show. Mr. Gardner stated mostly under 30 crowd. Average age of the Moose membership is 50, the car show visitors are 30-60 with families. Average about 60 vehicles, have room for 110 vehicles. Mr. Gardner explained the layout. No additional police officers are not needed for the car show.

Motion to approve: John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

Downtown Management – Sidewalk Sale

Erin Venezia – July 20-22, starting at 9, ends when that business closes for the night. Advertising that are usually places. But it gets tricky in advertising it too early since not all businesses have signed up yet. So we will post the businesses on our website when we get closer to the event. Only change is when the event closes. Since now it is base on the businesses hours.

Motion to approve: Jessica Bzdyl & Second John Aguzino

STAFF REPORT

We started posting the registration for the 4th of July Parade. We have John Hansen from WGN Radio as our grand marshal. John is a Downers Grove native. Trying to get Tommy Hawk, since John is the voice of the Blackhawks, so we have an in. Still working on bands, schools are still recovering from COVID and have not gotten back into participating in parades. Have spoken with District 99 about having the District 58 combine a band similar to 99's. It is too late in the school year now, so we will bring this up again in the fall. Ms. Szydowski asked about volunteers, as this committee volunteers. Yes we always need more volunteer, Ms. Rizzo is hoping for more staff members could help. Ms. Szydowski asked about high school students. But we need an adult with each student. Ms. Rizzo explain to our need our new members how the parade is set up. With the 5 sections. We explained how we set up each section is set up.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn John Aguzino, second Jessica Bzdyl

Next Meeting May 11th, 2023