

## Festival Committee Meeting January 21, 2015 at the Fire Station

Present: Holly Benca, Dianna Dykema, Carl Frey, Connie Granger, Deb Morgan, Gerry Morgan, Kim Raloff, Bob Schurman, Rich Shronts, Laura Veldhuizen, Jacqlyn West, and Bill Wold.

Laura Veldhuizen began the meeting at 6:05.

Laura thanked the committee members for their assistance in 2014 and stated that her goal was to determine who was at the meeting and who would be part of the committee for 2015.

Laura reviewed the history of the park lights. It was mentioned that the committee had recommended that \$5,000 of the festival/park/Okttoberfest funds be designated to assist the village with paying for them. Rich stated that he would determine the electricity savings of new LED lights for the older posts and present it to the village. This would state the specific savings in electricity and he would recommend that there be a purchase of four lights for approximately \$460 assuming that they have sufficient lumens. Rich will call Mike at the school to determine the cost of the lights they recently purchased as a comparison.

There was consensus to not have a St. Patrick's Day celebration.

There was consensus that the Easter Egg Hunt be continued. Tentatively scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup>. (Note: Easter is April 5<sup>th</sup> this year.)

There was a general discussion about the possibility of having raffles with specific prizes and possibly 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> level prizes. There was also talk about early bird drawings and having raffles at dates other than or including Oktoberfest. Bill commented that there should be a specific goal for the raffle so that patrons will know what the money is being raised to do. Several suggestions included ideas such as a "face lift" for the park building or a bathroom upgrade. The committee members are charged with coming to the next meeting with suggested projects for the raffle to fund and suggested prizes.

Rich mentioned that a current problem with the park building is that the floor generally does not look very good. He stated that the dust from the parking lot is tracked into the building and becomes difficult to remove from the floor. He suggested that a floor scrubber, such as the school has, may be considered for purchase, if we could find a used one. There was also discussion about the possibility of obtaining a new rug for in front of the doors or possibly having a rug service replace the rugs at intervals.

Rich brought up the need for bands for Oktoberfest to be hired now so that there is some choice. A number of bands were mentioned and discussed. There was a general feeling that Black Cadillac was a choice for Saturday. Rich wrote down names of bands suggested and said that he would call and see about prices and availability. He said that he would email committee members with the results of his investigation.

Jackie stated that the 5K is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Morning 5Ks usually have more participation and on the 20<sup>th</sup> there isn't competition with other Oktoberfest events and more workers are available to assist with the race. Oktoberfest flyers should state the different date for the 5K.

There was general discussion concerning the carnival with mention that the rides and games are more for younger children as teenagers tend not to be interested. It was mentioned that larger carnivals are not interested as Grant Park cannot guarantee enough participation to warrant their setting up.

The Dinner on Friday was discussed and a general feeling was that the Knights provided a successful dinner and should be used again in 2015.

There was discussion about the tent, tent costs, and the possible use of the tent on Saturday & Sunday during the day to hold crafters in addition to the park building. There was also discussion about the possibility of having the bands inside the park building at night. There was no consensus, however, the use of the tent by day for crafters seemed to have favorable comments.

Rich stated that the fireworks vendor would be calling him and he would complete that contract.

There was a brief discussion of the theme. Committee members are asked to come to the next meeting with possible themes to discuss. They should be themes that will generate a variety of floats and a nice design for T-shirts and flyers.

The next Festival Committee meeting is scheduled for March 18 at 6:00 pm at the Fire Station.

The meeting was concluded at 7:05.

Submitted by Gerry Morgan