

MINUTES
FAMILY DAYS COMMISSION
July 17, 2023

The Family Days Commission met in the Community Conference Room in Village Hall at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 17 2023. In attendance were:

Present:

Co-Chair Judy Geuder
Co-Chair Angie Butera
Phil Bettiker
Jason Merel

Committee Members Present:

Herb Issacs
Vicki Street, DBR Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Liaison

Also Present:

Justin Keenan, Staff Liaison
Ryan Oates, Staff Liaison

Introductions

None

Consideration of Minutes from June 5, 2023 Meeting

Commissioner Bettiker made a motion to approve the June 5, 2023, minutes and Commissioner Merel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Family Days Recap

Co-Chair Geuder shared that Commissioner Cervarich resigned from the Commission effective immediately.

a. Parade

Co-Chair Geuder said that it was a great parade, but unfortunately, we did not see the crowd that we anticipated. She stated the large Wiconia band was great but we will not see them back for at least three years due to their traveling schedule. She also stated that the kids stayed in the park after the parade to eat which made the food vendors happy. Co-Chair Geuder was disappointed in the lack of corporations but most stated that they were just skipping a year. She thanked Police and Public Works for their help in coordinating the parade.

b. Rotary Race

Committee Member Street shared that the grand total of the race was \$6,692.97 and the expenses were \$2,129.05 which gave the Village a net total of \$4,563.92. This was higher than the net total of last year. Additionally, this year there was almost a 50/50 split of guys to girls. Co-chair Butera said that the feedback she received was that it was very well run.

c. Arts & Crafts

Liaison Keenan stated that there were 26 vendors this year and the feedback from both the public and the vendors was positive. He stated that there will be some changes that will come up next year. One change that will be discussed for a future meeting will be about having multiple rows and spaces will be assigned. Co-Chair Geuder stated that she will be running the Arts and Crafts next year.

d. Fireworks

Liaison Oates shared that it was a good firework show with a lot of good feedback from the public. There were a lot of people at Shepard Park to watch the fireworks. Commissioner Merel asked why the fireworks stopped at the High School and Liaison Keenan stated that changes were made to be more accommodating. Liaison Keenan stated that there were some complaints from the Hellenic Academy due to people sitting on their property but they are interested in possibly having a shared event next year.

e. Food Vendors

Co-Chair Geuder thought it was great. Liaison Keenan stated that there will be some changes primarily on placement but otherwise it was great.

f. Sponsorships

Co-Chair Geuder stated that we ended with a little over \$10,000 in sponsorship funds and that the first time out was okay. She also stated that there is a lot of work getting sponsors to donate. She suggested the idea of having a Committee of Commissioners to gain more sponsors. Sponsors will also be mixed in with Arts and Crafts next year.

g. Entertainment/Rides, etc.

Co-Chair Butera said that the stage was fine with set up for Energy Production on the third and Uncle Sam's band was great on the fourth. She shared how the rides are getting expensive and sales were down from previous years. She stated that she looked at other carnivals but it has been difficult to find some that will work for Family Days. There was also discussion amongst the Commission of having a band for next year.

h. Dog Show

Committee Member Issacs stated the dog show gets bigger and bigger every year. He asked if the Park District can give a bigger area and more stands next year, and the staff liaisons said they would look into it. Committee Member Issacs also suggested that there should list the costumes and to send out an e-blast about the dog show. There was also talks about getting a wireless microphone.

i. Poster Contest

Co-Chair Butera shared that there were 52 posters submitted to Committee Member Finne and the park district received another 20. Everyone who submitted a poster received a free pizza and all posters have been returned.

j. Bike Parade

Co-Chair Butera shared that it was a great turnout at the bike parade. There were an estimated 75 participants.

k. Sensory Friendly

Co-chair Butera said that there was not as many people as expected. She brought up the idea of possibly moving the area to the library and co-chair Geuder stated that it would need to be a library event.

Suggestions for Next Year

Co-Chairs Geuder and Butera asked about changing to a 503-C. Liaison Keenan stated he is investigating it and will pass information along to Liaison Oates when he has more information.

Other Items for Consideration

Staff Liaison Keenan announced to the Commission that he is no longer a part of the Family Days Commission. He thanked everyone for all of their hard work.

Commissioner Bettiker made a motion to rename the bike parade to the “John Sciaretta Bike Parade”. On a vote, the motion passed 5-0.

Next Meeting

Undecided

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Bettiker made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Merel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ryan Oates, Staff Liaison