

Homer Community Festival Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
March 1, 2023

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W. 151st Street
Village Community Room**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Chairman Fialko.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and invocation.

3. Roll Call

Members present at 5:35 pm were Chairman Fialko, Mike Carlson, Tony Drabik, Mark Gawron, Carmen Maurella, John Walters, and Ethan Fialko.

Members absent were Mike Bonomo (excused), Jay Roti (excused), Debbie Stevens (excused), Paul McGary (no call/no show), and Sara Rudnik (no call/no show)

Also present were Alana Charboneau, Jen Vittori, Jackie Huff, Vicki Bozen, Lt. Taylor, Dave Medina, and Dan Mulka.

4. Amendments to the Agenda - None

5. Approval of Minutes

a. February 1, 2023

Member Carmen Maurella motioned to approve the minutes from February 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mark Gawron. All voted in favor unanimously, and zero (0) opposed. The motion carried. Chairman Fialko stated that the minutes are historical documents and want to make sure all members are reading over them. He noted that a member could table the minutes if they need more time to review them.

6. Public Comment

- a. Member Mike Carlson commented on the Chicago mayoral race. Chairman Fialko introduced Jim Crones from the Ability Awareness Committee. Jim spoke about the special needs day. He wanted to confirm that the times for the rides for adults and children would be from 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm. He also stated that the Ability Awareness Committee (AAC) wanted to volunteer for the beer tent and clean up. Volunteering in the beer tent helped raise money for their cause. Chairman Fialko asked if it was the Ability Awareness Committees' goal to participate in the special needs day and have a representative there. Dan would like someone from the committee at the Fest meetings to help coordinate the special needs day. Jim said he would bring it to the next AAC meeting, and this was a starting point. This will help set expectations on both sides.

7. Announcements

Chairman Fialko said we will have the big skylights for two nights at Fest. He has seen them at other places, and they have never been incorporated at Homer Fest. The lights will be set up behind the open concept stage, as they serve two purposes, attract people to the fest and make the stage look better. The lights cost \$600 a day, or \$2700 for the weekend. Dan negotiated with the company, as we do not need them on fireworks night (the longest night of the year) and Sunday the Fest closes earlier, to have them Friday and Saturday only from 9:30 pm – 11:30 pm. The charge is \$675, and the rest is an in-

kind donation. The company will have a large balloon display to promote the business at the fest.

8. Old Business

a. Pet Fest

Vicki Bozen from Homer Township was present to give a Pet Fest update. Mucha Salsa will have a food truck there, and Vicki is also working on getting the Creamery. The Pet Fest committee has decided against having a stage. There will be a pet parade instead, where people can dress up their pets and walk them around. They have started to receive sponsorships. Chairman Fialko asked where they were with insurance regarding dog bites. Vicki stated that they are working on it with the insurance company. For the next three years, an IGA between Homer Township and the Village has been signed for Pet Fest. Vicki would like signs posted around the Pet Fest, that say enter at your own risk. Signs will be posted saying dogs need to be updated on shots. Chairman Fialko noted that part of the entry process should be updated tags and collars required to enter. Member Mike Carlson had some questions for Vicki. He asked if dogs had to be on a leash the whole time. Vicki said yes, they do, and all the pamphlets will also say that. He then asked if TLC Animal Shelter would be there with animals for adoption. Vicki talked to TLC, and they are short-staffed and cannot attend. After the event, donations, food, and pet supplies will be gathered to bring to TLC. She is working with three other rescues that will bring animals for adoption. Mike then asked if there would be any dog grooming vendors there. Vicki stated that nine vendors would be there, and some will be groomers. She has contacted all the local groomers to attend. Mike Carlson is going to DJ at the event. Dan said that legal counsel should be contacted on the Township and Village side to see if signs are needed to prevent lawsuits over a dog bite. Jacquelyn suggested that residents sign a waiver when entering. Dan said they would discuss it with counsel. Member Ethan Fialko asked if there was one way in and one way out, like Homer Fest. Chairman Fialko and Vicki confirmed there would be an entrance and exit and confirmed the event is on June 17 from noon – 3:00 pm. Dan asked Vicki if security was needed. Lt. Taylor asked how many people they were anticipating at the event. Vicki is hoping to get around 1,000 people there. Lt Taylor stated that security would be needed, and to contact WCSO to schedule the detail.

b. Vendors and Sponsors

Chairman Fialko asked Jacquelyn to give an update on sponsorships. Jacquelyn stated that the sponsorships were emailed to all the businesses. The events department is going out to the local business to talk to them in person as well. Mark Gawron and Mike Carlson were also helping in securing sponsors as well. Member Carlson asked for three sponsorship packets. Dan said he is looking for stage sponsors, we have the huge banners that go across the stage, and Homer Fest could be at the top if we do not get a ten-thousand-dollar sponsor. Dan

suggested reaching out to ComEd, Nicor, IAW, and the local banks for sponsorships. Dan asked how many vendors have put in an application for food vendors. The due date will be extended from March 1 to the end of March. Chairman Fialko asked Dan Mulka if they could reach also reach out to the business

c. Alcohol Update

Member Drabik said that he and Trustee Pazmino met with Kozol Brothers, and the Taste of Joliet is the same weekend which uses all of their resources. They were hesitant to sign up for Homer Fest because of that. Member Maurella said that if they are unwilling to commit and not return phone calls, cut them out and go with Lakeshore. Tony would like to wait until Friday and get their response. People are going to drink regardless of what is served. Kozol Brothers does not have wine as Lakeshore does. Tony asked Jacquelyn if she had from the Junior Women's club about working the beer tent. The Royals soccer club was the only organization to complete an application. Chairman Fialko asked Jim from AAC if they would be willing to do a more extended shift in the beer tent. Jim will bring it back to his committee for approval. Alana will reach out to the Junior Women's club for volunteering. Dan asked if Kozol had barbacks, and they do not. Chairman Fialko said the Village does not need to get a liquor license from itself, just from the State of Illinois. Member Maurella has prepared the application and is ready to apply for it. He then brought up basset training for the originations that are in the beer tent. Member Maurella does not think it is necessary. Chairman Fialko wanted to know what the other members think. Member Ethan Fialko said it should be done as a precaution. The basset training is good for three years, and they can sign up online. Carmen suggested that the Homer Fest Committee all be basset trained, as they see more of what is going on. Members can sign up for the training and be reimbursed. Dan asked the email link for the training be sent to all the members. Ethan asked if there was a limit to how many beers a person can get at once. Tony said no, but at the same time, ten beers would not be given to one person at one time. Chairman Fialko brought up that Lemont, Lockport, Downers Grove, and Hinsdale can carry beer in the carnival. Tony thinks that the alcohol be kept in the beer tent.

9. New Business

a. New Band/ATM

Chairman Fialko reached out to the music group 815, which trains kids from 5 - 21 years old in music. In addition to the bands who are playing, 815 will play on Friday before the opening band. Member Ethan Fialko said that six ATM machines will be at Fest. He should work with Mark on placement as they will need electricity.

b. Veteran's acknowledgment day

Chairman Fialko talked with Member Bonomo and Michelle Kerfin about having Veteran's time on Sunday from 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm. That includes Senior Day as well.

Round Table.

Tony Drabik – He will speak with Carmen about the Stallions alumni volunteering
Dave Medina – working with Mark on the layout. BI has traffic signs, and they usually do in-kind donations. Ask the WCSO if they have one we can borrow.

Dan Mulka – with HCBA. He can not do the blankets. If the weather is bad, or people do not buy them, they would be stuck with them. Dan suggested ponchos, those are reusable. Chairman Fialko asked if they could do the ponchos, and Dan said they could sell them.

Ethan Fialko – He asked about handicapped parking. There was not enough last year. Carmen suggested having it by the baseball fields. Dan agreed, to move it by the fields, and it can be marked off. He has a local company out of Lockport that can provide bathrooms. They would be doing an in-kind donation of the units. Trevor from Portable John arrived at 6:54 pm to talk about the services he could offer. Dan would like to stick to the garbage contract that we already have and have Trevor do the porta-potties. Carmen will talk with Frank.

Jennifer Vittori – Nothing to add at this time.

Mark Gawron – Contacted Frank from Homewood Disposal. He gave him the dates of Homer Fest and needed a few more porta potties and handwashing stations. There need to be more garbage cans next to the handwashing stations. Also need can liners. Parks would rather have liners and pull the bags out than dump the cans into the dumpster. Dan asked about the garbage pickers, and to get the ones without the space in between the pinchers. Each golf cart should have pickers.

John Walters – Nothing to add at this time.

Alana Charboneau – She is going to reach out to Junior Women's Club about volunteering. She asked for an updated map so it can go on the website.

Jacquelyn Huff – Talked to Home City Ice. Go with 4 freezers. They brought one full skid of ice last year, up that to two. Marquee does not do up lights. Ethan suggested having a freezer truck instead.

Mike Carlson – Wants to do the 50/50 raffle. Should have more people walking around selling the tickets. Should really promote the raffle during band changeover.

Carmen – Sent the IGA over to School district 92 for parking if needed. They are looking it over. Have 1st student bus on standby.

Dan – The next Homer Fest meeting is April 5.

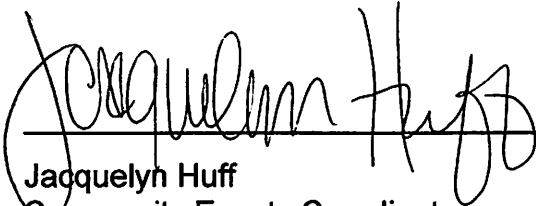
10. Next Meeting

May 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Chairman Fialko asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Maurella moved, seconded by Member Carlson. A voice vote was called, all were in favor, and zero (0) opposed. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacquelyn Huff", written over a horizontal line.

Jacquelyn Huff
Community Events Coordinator
Village of Homer Glen