

Homer Community Festival Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
April 5, 2023

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman Fialko.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and invocation.

3. Roll Call

Members present at 5:30 pm were Chairman Fialko, Mike Bonomo, Mike Carlson (phone), Tony Drabik, Mark Gawron, Carmen Maurella, Paul McGary, Debbie Stevens, John Walters, and Ethan Fialko.

Members absent were Jay Roti (excused), and Sara Rudnik (no call/no show)

Also present were Jen Vittori, Jackie Huff, Lt. Taylor, Dave Medema, Dave Bricker, Ron Kus, Bill Frossard, Jim Crones, Mike Gamperl, and Dan Mulka.

4. Amendments to the Agenda - None

5. Approval of Minutes

a. March 1, 2023

Member Maurella had an amendment to 8. C line 14. The line should read "has prepared application and ready to apply".

Member Tony Drabik motioned to approve the minutes from March 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mark Gawron. All voted in favor unanimously, and zero (0) opposed.

6. Public Comment

a. None. Resident Shavonne Kidd was present but did not have anything to say at this time.

7. Announcements

Chairman Fialko announced that Homer Fest is 11 weeks away. He said we are shifting into high gear, and Fest will be opening its doors before we know it. Everything is lining up smoothly and getting ready to go.

8. Old Business

a. Food Vendors

Chairman Fialko asked staff liaison Jacquelyn how many applications she had for food vendors. She said she had 19 applications. Jacquelyn stated Alana, Kris, and herself looked through the applications and picked out the 15 they thought would be best for Homer Fest. Chair Fialko said to put food vendors on the agenda for next month's meeting for members to vote on. Jacquelyn suggested they be voted on today since next month's meeting in May is too late. Dan agreed and asked her to read all of the vendors who applied. Jacquelyn read all 19 vendors and their food choices. Mike Bonomo suggested Edible

Arrangements be at Fest and wanted to reach out to them. He was given until the next day, otherwise, they would not be considered. Chair Fialko wanted to put it before the board to make a motion to approve the vendors. Motion approved by Member Bonomo, seconded by Member Gawron. Chair Fialko opened the floor up for discussion. Member McGary asked if Rustic Knead had been reached out to. Jacquelyn stated that she had spoken to the owner Richard on the phone and emailed him the application, which he did not submit. Member Stevens asked if logistically 15 vendors could fit. Dan said they have planned for the increase of vendors. There were two pretzel vendors that applied. Member Ethan Fialko stated there was no need for two pretzel vendors and that we should go with the one from Homer Glen. Roll call was taken and all voted in favor unanimously, with zero (0) opposed. The following vendors will be at Homer Fest: GRZ Grub, Barones, Wild Fries, Papa Joes, Bobalus, Mucha Salsa, Smokin Z BBQ, Annabells BBQ, Bens Soft Pretzels, KG Specialties, Chills Italian Ice, The Creamery, Rainbow Cone, Highlanders Grill and Go Doggy Run.

b. Sponsors

Chair Fialko asked Jacquelyn to give a report on sponsors. She said that they have received \$10,500 in payments. Hawk Joliet, Poke Plus, Xfinity, and ComEd have all turned in sponsorship forms and are pending payment. Dan asked if there has been follow-up with sponsors from last year. Jacquelyn said that she, Alana, and Kris have been going out to local businesses and talking to the managers/owners. Chair Fialko said the stage has large banners that go across the top and the sides of it. The top banner will say "Homer Fest" and the side banners will be split between the top sponsors. Dan said to keep the banner background white and do not put the year on it. Tony will find out next week how much Lakeshore Beverages will sponsor. Member Carlson will play the audio for the thirty-second sponsor ads during the fest.

c. Tents

Chair Fialko asked what the status of the tents was. Jacquelyn said the contract with Marquee was signed and ready to go. Marquee knows that we will be adding more tents to the order once it is determined how many food vendor tents are needed. She also stated that the tents will be the stake-down ones, as the pole tents were too costly. Member Ethan Fialko asked about the lights for the tent. Jacquelyn said that a quote was obtained and it was about \$8,000 for up lights. The lights from last year are in storage and can be used again, and we will have to get a few more strands.

d. Volunteers/Organizations

Chair Fialko stated that the Ability Awareness Committee (AAC) did not have its last committee meeting, and Jim Cronos confirmed it did not happen. The AAC did submit its application for the beer tent. Member Drabik said they need to know how many volunteers will be there in order to give them an appropriate time

slot. Dan asked Jacquelyn how many organizations have submitted an application. The Girl Scouts, Homer Junior Women's Club, District 92 Athletic Club, Ability Awareness, and the Royals FC have submitted applications. The Boy Scouts said they would apply too. Chair Fialko asked when the deadline for the applications to be turned in was. Jacquelyn said they will keep taking applications, and there was no set deadline. Dan wanted to have a deadline, the organizations would need to get Basset trained. Jacquelyn said that at the last meeting, it was determined that the committee members and staff liaisons would get basset trained. Member Stevens commented that last year it was requested that the groups get basset trained, but was not required. Chair Fialko asked Member Drabik what he preferred. Member Drabik said he agrees with having the Homer Fest members and Village Staff take the basset training. The basset training is a three-year certification, and Members Drabik, Stevens, and Maurella are already certified. Member Maurella read the minutes from the last meeting where it was stated and agreed that the members of Homer Fest would get basset trained. Dan would like an email sent out with the link to the basset training sent to the committee members. Member Drabik would like a meeting with the new organizations for an orientation. Chair Fialko asked the members to talk to residents/friends/family about volunteering and donating two hours of their time to Homer Fest.

e. Portable John

Chair Fialko has sat down with Nu-Way and things are going well. Member Maurella is meeting with Frank in the upcoming week. Porta John is going to fill in for Sanitation Services. There have been problems with Sanitation Services in the past, and Porta John is going to give in-kind donations of their services. Nu-Way will still do the garbage services. Bill Frossard had requested an extra dumpster for this year. There should be one by the beer tent as well.

Chair Fialko asked Jim Cronos if there was anything he wanted to say about the special needs day. He stated that Debbie Stevens was there and could help him with anything that he needs. Since 2014, special needs day has been put on by the Homer Fest Committee, and now the two committees are working together. Dan said that the AAC ideas are their own, and they need to make them work. Now is the time to start looking at last year's punch list, and if there are questions to ask Debbie, and if she does not know the answer to ask him. The contact for AAC with any questions will be Debbie. The Fest Committee has \$500 budgeted for toys/prizes for the event. Chair Fialko would like the AAC's input on handicapped parking. That has been an issue in the past and they would like more ideas. Dan said that Jennifer is working on a ramp for access by the football fields. Jennifer wants to ask Marquee if they have a ramp for rental. She is worried about making a ramp in house, what if someone were to get hurt while on it. Carmen will walk the area with Jennifer to look for spots and see where the terrain is uneven. Chair Fialko asked Lt. Taylor if they saw the layout and where they plotted where the Sheriff's trailer would go. The trailer would go on the south

end of the east side of the football field. They are also looking to put the Hero's trailer there as well. Member Gawron showed Lt Taylor the proposed layout of the Fest and where all the trailers would go.

9. New Business

Round Table.

Tony Drabik – He will be picking out the liquor products to be sold at Fest next week. He will have a report on that next meeting.

Mike Bonomo – Senior Day is going to include a Veteran's Day as well. If anyone knows any active Veterans that will be in the area that day, let him know. The plan is to recognize all the different branches of the military and wars. The idea of this is to be upbeat and show appreciation. TAPS will not be played.

Debbie Stevens – would like to tighten up advertising. She would like to make sure the website has the correct information. On the website, the schedule tab and carnival tab have different times. Debbie will meet with Jacquelyn to go over the time and make corrections. The biggest investment and draw are the fireworks. She would like to really advertise that. The parking and drop-off should be known as well. It will be helpful to parents dropping off kids where to go. She asked if posters will be posted around town in restaurants and other businesses. Chair Fialko suggested as members go out to the business for sponsorships, they should ask to hang posters.

Paul McGary – Volunteered to hang posters. The posters are good advertisements as they contain lots of information. Dan asked how Paul was on ice. Ice is all set; the only thing is Home City Ice does not deliver on the weekends. We will have to make sure to get any final deliveries on Friday.

Dan Mulka – They are going to do a giant coloring sheet this year. You can wipe away the crayon to use in the future, or if someone draws something inappropriate. Chair Fialko asked about the rain ponchos. Dan said they are going to still have them, he is looking into prices.

Jim Cronos – He is going to get clarification on the volunteers and staffing from his committee. He will also have a discussion on the gifts and t-shirts.

Ron Kus – Has Narcan for the Fest. Dan said the EMA trailer is on the layout to go by the baseball fields, is that a good spot? Ron is going to walk to the layout and determine if that spot works.

Bill Frossard – Nothing to add at this time.

Jennifer Vittori – Nothing to add at this time.

Dave Bricker – The permit and insurance has been issued for the fireworks.

Lt. Taylor – Wanted to know if it is possible to separate the big kid rides so they were not all lumped together. Debbie stated she spoke with the carnival and the reason they are all together is because of the generator. There is one large generator that powers all the larger rides. To separate them, the carnival would have to get more generators and it would cost more. There will be bicycle fencing in between the rides to help with line-cutting and crowd control. He would also

like to see the layout and where the barriers will be placed. He has concerns with the kids rides being separated and on the football field.

Mike Gamprel – Has the same concerns about the rides.

John Walters – the bollards can be dropped for band arrival and departure. The keys have been made and tested. Dan said might need to look at the gravel paths, as the bands are going out a different way this year.

Mark Gawron – Will get together with Jennifer, Ron, and Lt Taylor to walk the layout.

Jacquelyn Huff – Nothing to add at this time.

Mike Carlson – Nothing to add at this time.

Carmen – Nothing to add at this time.

Dan – The next Homer Fest meeting is May 3rd at 5:30.

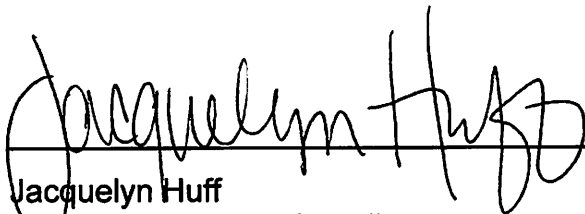
10. Next Meeting

May 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Chairman Fialko asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Bonomo moved, seconded by Member Drabik. A voice vote was called, all were in favor, and zero (0) opposed. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacquelyn Huff", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Jacquelyn Huff
Community Events Coordinator
Village of Homer Glen