

Homer Community Festival Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
April 20, 2021

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Chris Locacius.

2. Pledge of Allegiance**3. Roll Call; Establish Quorum**

Members present at 6:00 p.m. were Chairperson Trustee Carlo Caprio (left at 6:20 p.m.), Vice-Chair Chris Locacius, Karen Adamczyk, Dave Bricker, Mike De Vivo, Tony Drabik, Todd Fonfara, Paul McGary, Sue Steilen, and Debbie Stevens (arrived 6:07 p.m.).

Members absent: Sara Rudnik.

Also Present: Amy Blank, Dan Fialko, Anthony Giacobbe, Michelle Kerfin (left at 6:35 p.m.), John Robinson, Trustee Beth Rodgers, Rose Reynders (arrived 6:19 p.m.), and Lt. Jim Holuj (arrived at 6:25 p.m.).

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda

None.

5. Approval of Minutes**a. March 16, 2021**

Member Drabik motioned to approve the meeting minutes from March 16, 2021. Second was made by Trustee Caprio. All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Announcements

A Special Meeting will be scheduled for May 11 at 6:00 p.m. to meet the planning needs for the Festival.

8. Old Business

- a. Discussion regarding 2021 HomerFest Planning and 20th Anniversary
 - 1. Heritage Corridor Business Alliance Tent

Michelle Kerfin from the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance (HCBA) reported the HCBA is supporting the Fest with two print promotions. One, a postcard will be inserted into a packaged deck mailed to homes in Homer Glen, Lemont, and surrounding communities, one side will feature their car show and the other side will feature HomerFest. Two, a booklet that will be mailed to local communities the first week of May. They will also have something that glows in the dark to hand out the night of the fireworks. Their group will also provide bartenders. The HCBA will also hand out the balsa planes from the tent. They will have raffles, giveaways, face painting and a dunk tank. A bubble show and additional entertainment will take place in the tent. A flyer will also be available to handout with discounts to member restaurants. The HCBA will help with poster placement in businesses. John Robinson said the dunk tank can be filled with well water from the park using a Village trailer that has a water tank. Member Drabik will reach out to the Stallions for a coach for the dunk tank. Vice-Chair Locacius requested Michelle Kerfin to put the information in an email and send to Member Steilen.

2. Graduate Day

Member Steilen spoke to Karen Valentine with the parents' group. The offer of the Entertainment Tent wasn't met with enthusiasm. Member Steilen emphasized to Ms. Valentine that if the Fest could not open due to COVID mandates from the State, the graduates may not get anything. The parents are considering purchasing and administering some type of coupon to give to the graduates to present for a discount when buying a mega pass. Member Stevens suggested that the parents' group could purchase game tickets in advance and give those to the kids.

3. Beer Tent

i. Lakeshore Beverage Update

Member Drabik reported Lakeshore Beverage will reduce their sponsorship proportionally if attendance is restricted. Member Steilen reported that the Village will need to submit a detailed plan of how the Village will monitor control, and restrict the number of persons in a designated area. In Phase 4 the number of people is restricted to 15 per 1,000 square feet, the Bridge phase allows 30 people per 1,000 square feet, and Phase 5 has no restrictions on the number of individuals. Some suggestions for addressing the restrictions included expanding the fence area, not using a tent over the audience, reducing the number of tables and chairs, using a stage on a trailer with a canopy instead of a stage in the tent.

ii. Volunteer Organizations

Member Stevens spoke to Operation Care, and they are too busy. She then reached out to the sports organization. The baseball organizations

are too busy at this time of year. The Stallions are interested. Member Stevens will follow up with the Stallions. Member Drabik will reach out to the Lockport High School baseball and football boosters. The HCBA will try to fill in slots. Basset training is May 10, Monday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Amy Blank, Tony Drabik, Chris Locacius, and Sue Steilen will attend the Basset Training.

4. Site Planning

John Robinson reviewed the proposed site plan.

5. T-Shirts Colors

Member Bricker presented the t-shirt color options. He is still waiting for quotes from one of the vendors. By consensus the Committee requested that Amy Blank and Sue Steilen choose the color of the shirts.

6. COVID Protocol Update

Trustee Rodgers will reach out to the Canal Days organizers and the Village of New Lenox to see what they are doing to meet the COVID mandates.

Member Stevens reported the carnival has added additional staff to sanitize the rides.

7. Updates from Committee Members

- a. Vice-Chair Locacius has talked with Pete from Ace Pyro. They are working on the radio stations to make sure they are able to broadcast. The theme and the release of the new *Top Gun* movie will work well for the Fest.
- b. Member Stevens reported the Carnival is offering the following packages to be sold to our sponsors:
 - \$200 Banner/sign at a ride
 - \$500 Banner/sign plus 2 day passes to the carnival
 - \$750 Banner/sign plus 2 mega passes
- c. The Festival is responsible for providing the signs and keeps all of the revenue. Member Stevens also reported the carnivals have been operating in the States that are open in the South and have been grossing more than usual.
- d. Vice-Chair asked Member Drabik to order pallets of water from Lakeshore Beverage.
- e. Trustee Rodgers has reached out to the Village Manager to see if some comp time can be offered for employees to volunteer at the Fest.
- f. Member Steilen reported ice, sanitation, and dumpsters have been ordered. She will check in to securing an ATM machine and credit card terminals.
- g. Member Adamczyk requested that the carnival offer more larger rides for the older teens on Special Needs Day. Member Stevens, Vice-Chair

Locacius will meet with the carnival on the Wednesday before Special Needs Day to discuss what rides can be open.

- h. Member McGary requested a sign for the Information Booth that says ID check is for those who want to purchase alcohol. All may enter. He will make a list of signs that he would like at the information booth. Anthony Giacobbe has offered his property at 143rd and Golden Oak for a Fest sign placement.
- i. John Robinson reported that his crew has built hand sanitizing stations. They are almost finished with two ticket booths.
- j. Lt. Holuj will have the Sheriff's Auxiliary at the next meeting.
- k. Member De Vivo reported that parking will now be handled by the Village's public works department (formerly Road District employees).
- l. Member Bricker will get the price quotes for the t-shirts.
- m. The time will need to be coordinated between the fly over and the fireworks. The flight team and fireworks personnel will communicate with each other. Dan Fialko suggested that the flyover time be publicized, so people do not miss it.
- n. Member Steilen will order the mosquito abatement.

9. New Business

Lt. Holuj asked the Committee to consider having the Sheriff's Department "Hidden in Plain Sight Trailer" at the Fest. The trailer recreates a teen's bedroom to educate anyone over the age of 21 in identifying signs of alcohol and drug abuse, eating disorders, and other dangerous behaviors.

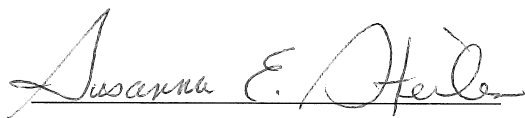
10. Next Meeting – May 11, 2021

The next meeting will be held May 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Member Adamczyk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second was made by Member Drabik. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Sue Steilen
Community Events Coordinator
Village of Homer Glen