

Ability Awareness Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
May 3, 2022

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Village Board Room**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chairperson LaHa

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**3. Roll Call was taken by H.R. Manager Patrianakos at 6:35 p.m.**

Ability Awareness Committee	Title	Attendance
Nicole LaHa	Chairperson	Present
Christina Neitzke-Troiike	Committee Member	Present
Karen Adamczyk	Committee Member	Present
Heather Bleck	Committee Member	Present
Angela McKenna	Committee Member	Not Present
Robert O'Connor	Committee Member	Present
James Cronos	Committee Member	Present
Stacy Patrianakos	Staff Liaison	Present

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda

- There were no amendments to the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes from the committee meeting
- 1st Member: Adamczyk
- 2nd Member: Bleck
- Unanimously approved

6. Public Comment

- No comments

7. Reports and Communication**a) Report from Chairperson LaHa:**

- **Sign Language Class**
Very successful event. Fox 32 was at the event and will contact Chairperson LaHa with an air date. The committee will have continued discussions about adding additional classes in the future.
- **Parade:** AAC has a slot in the parade, everyone is welcome to attend including any special needs organizations such as best buddies. The parade is on June 25, 2022. It usually kicks off at 10 a.m. The committee will distribute AAC brochures at the parade. Member Adamczyk suggested we invite Brandon Adjoumani to join the committee in the parade.

Chairperson LaHa suggested that we make AAC-specific t-shirts for the parade. Village Clerk Neitzke-Troike mentioned that Konows has a people carrier that the committee could use for the parade if interested.

- **The Grant:** We are in the process of coordinating this event. The anticipated presentation to the winner will be in the month of June.
 - The annual **committee appointments** is coming up and Chairperson LaHa asked all committee members to contact her and let her know if they plan to stay on the committee. Village Clerk Neitzke-Troike mentioned that the Ability Awareness Committee is allotted up to 7 members, therefore if additional people would like to join Chairperson LaHa would have to amend that number.
- b) Report from HR Manager Patrianakos: nothing to report
- c) Report from Member Adamczyk:
- A. **Homer Fest** offered to allow us to use the stage for special needs pre-carnival day attendees but we would need someone to monitor the stage. The pre-carnival party will run from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The beer night for the fest is Friday evening. Joey's hot dogs will be donating food and Papa Joe is donating pizza for the event. Goodie bags will include: free t-shirts, brochures, zoo passes, and tickets (each child gets 2 tickets) Last year, there were approximately 100 bags made up for the pre-carnival event. HR Manager will follow up with Sue Steilen about who purchased the t-shirts that were distributed. The team talked about potentially getting a magician and balloon artist for kids and Village Clerk Neitzke-Troike will look into securing them. The pre-carnival party is from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- d) Report from Member O'Connor: nothing to report
- e) Report from Member Crones: nothing to report
- f) Report from Member Bleck: nothing to report.
- g) Report from Village Clerk Neitzke-Troike:
- A. **Collection Closet:** The check-out form is complete and was forwarded to staff. Chairperson LaHa reviewed the protocol for checking out equipment and HR Manager Patrianakos will put it in writing and distribute it to staff and the committee. Village Manager Maurella confirmed that equipment will be stored in the 2nd-floor closet at Village Hall.
 - B. **Homer Fest:** Brent Woods donated 100 zoo passes and parking passes and we will include them in the homer fest staff.
 - **Pop tab challenge:** Need to make a flyer and send it to Christina. Mr. Konow will be donating \$5K again in 2022. The committee discussed potentially hosting another pop tab challenge. If the pop tab challenge will take place then everyone agreed that a kick-off date, timeline, and logistics need to be finalized soon.
 - **Plastic cap collection:** The Homer Junior Woman's Club has started plastic caps collection event. Village Clerk Neitzke-Troike suggested that the AAC in conjunction with environment and parks committees do the same. The AAC should determine if this is something that should be brought to the board. The pop tab and plastic cap challenge can be hosted simultaneously.

- **Great Gatsby Gala:** This event is being planned for February 2023 and Village Clerk stressed that this will need to be a team effort.

8. **Old Business:**

- **The Big Project.** Heritage Park has a 2-5 playground and a 5-12 playground section. It is a partially accessible park. There is a ramp and a wheelchair area. There will be slides. Nicole was thinking we can add separate play bins/stations and maybe we donate that from the AAC. If the board passes the above-mentioned sections then we will move forward with researching additional items to be donated by the AAC.

9. **New Business**

- 2021 Pop Tab Challenge winners are taking their trips in June/July of this year. Village Clerk Neitzke-Troiike will keep the committee updated after trips have been taken.

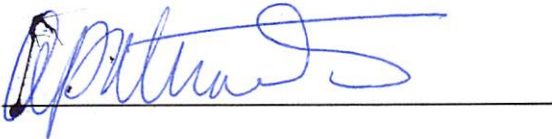
10. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: at 7:32

1st: Christina Neitzke-Troiike

2nd: Member Cronos

Respectfully Submitted:



Stacy Patrianakos
Human Resources Manager