

Homer Community Festival Committee

Minutes of the
Special Meeting on
October 26, 2021

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Member Locacius.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Members present at 5:00 p.m. were Dave Bricker, Tony Drabik, Todd Fonfara, Chris Locacius, Paul McGary, Sue Steilen, and Debbie Stevens.

Members absent: Chairperson Trustee Dan Fialko, Karen Adamczyk, and Sara Rudnik.

Also Present: Communications and Recreation Services Coordinator Amy Blank, and Lt. Jim Holuj (arrived at 5:05 p.m.), and All Around Amusements owner Rob Salerno.
Residents: Mike Carlson, Mark Gawron, and John Walters.

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda

None.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. September 21, 2021

Member Drabik made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2021, meeting. Second was made by Member McGary. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Announcements

None.

8. Old Business

a. 2022 HomerFest Planning

1. Site Planning and Layout

Member Locacius presented three site options:

A) The 2019 site.

- B) The 2021 site.
- C) Proposed new site on the east side of Heritage Circle.

Rob Salerno from All Around Amusement was invited to discuss the site options and the effect of each option on the carnival. Salerno stated the 2019 was perfect. The large rides require 60 feet of space. The width of Heritage Circle, which would be used in option C, is only 40 feet. The rides are heavy and will sink in grass. If it rains, the ground will be damaged. Site C also presents a problem by separating the large rides. He would need more generators. Dividing the rides will also divide the revenue. At site C, he would also need water access at three different locations. Ambulance access will also be more difficult. With site B he would like to create a kid fun zone area. He is willing to work with whatever site is chosen.

Disadvantages to Site C per Salerno:

- Need three water sources
- Need additional generators
- Additional fuel costs and fuel truck for rides may have a more difficult time with access.
- Need additional lighting
- Dividing assets which would cause a loss of -revenue

Each Committee Member discussed how each site option would affect their roles.

Member Steilen:

For accounting purposes and money runs, site 2019 was best. The 2021 site was difficult with distance to travel and getting through crowds of people in the front of the tent. A positive side of site C, the maintenance building could possibly serve as an accounting room. Site B was too far for volunteers to travel to access the craft services room. Site C would split up food vendors, and the vendors would be more likely to complain about their own location. Site B was a long walk for seniors. Even if they were dropped off at 151st Street, it was a long walk back to the Beer Tent.

Amy Blank:

She heard lots of positive feedback for the 2021 site (B). People liked the path to the parking on the Township property. The food vendor location was biggest negative. None of the volunteers took advantage of bathrooms and craft services when site B was used.

Member Bricker:

Site B had better access for Fire Department and getting around with gators. Proposed site will cause more issues with access, due to lack of sidewalks and the large area to get around on grass. An aerial vehicle would not be able to easily access the big rides on site C.

Lt. Holuj:

Site B had so much ground for the deputies to cover. Site A was easier to cover, due to its squarer design. Site C creates even more area to cover. Golf carts provided for the deputies would help. Their trailer that was put out in 2021 had a nice location. They would like to have a trailer again because it served as a missing child and missing parent location. This year, they would like to add a canopy and chair in front of the trailer. The trailer location would need to be on pavement. Monitoring alcohol in coolers would be more difficult in the site C location. Site A was the easiest for security. Site C would require at least two additional union deputies.

Member McGary:

In 2021 (site B), the information booth received more questions about where things were located. This would also likely happen with site C. Site A worked best for the information booth. Would there be an ingress and egress area in site C? He has no idea of where the information booth would be located. There was concern about enforcement of alcohol consumption by several members.

Member Fonfara:

He likes the food vendors on a hard surface provided on Site C. However, splitting up the vendors makes running the power cables more difficult. Every year, the need for more power increases. Site C would be more work and more labor. Site C would be the least favored for power. Bathrooms also require lights and power. Keeping everything requiring power closer together makes things easier.

Member Stevens:

Likes the carnival rides on asphalt. If drainage could be mitigated, she prefers site A. She likes the kiddie ride option for site B.

Member Drabik:

Liked bigger tent this year. He prefers site A or site B. He does not like to keep moving the site. He would like to stick with what we know and tweak things to make the chosen site better.

Member Locacius:

Prefers using a previous site because we know the problems and what we must fix. With site B, the family tent and food vendors can be moved to provide better access. He suggested getting tents early and putting stone down now. He would also like us to order mats now and do as much as possible ahead of time. Parking must be resolved.

Mark Gawron:

The road width eliminates site C.

Mike Carlson

Roads and safety issues eliminate site C. He proposed parking on the football field.

Member Drabik made a motion to have the 2022 Fest located on the same site as the 2021 Fest (site B). Second was made by Member Stevens.

Roll Call Vote:

Bricker - Yes

Drabik - Yes

Fonfara - Yes

Locacius - Yes

McGary - Yes

Steilen - Yes

Stevens - Yes

Motion carried.

2. Bands

Since Trustee Fialko was not in attendance, discussion was tabled until next meeting.

3. Committee Member Assignments

Since Trustee Fialko was not in attendance, discussion was tabled until next meeting.

4. Budget

A budget worksheet was included in the packet. Committee members were asked to review their areas of responsibility and prepare for discussion of budget items at the next meeting. For example, five golf carts were used in 2021, ten golf carts will be needed in 2022. Quotes obtained for items to include in the budget should be forwarded to Member Steilen..

9. New Business

Member Locacius spoke with the fireworks guy again. He had met another shooter. The usual pyro technician, Peter, will not be on the premises in 2022. He will still design the show. Member Locacius would like to find a different sound provider for the fireworks display. The fireworks vendor works with another company out of Indiana. Member Locacius will work on obtaining pricing.

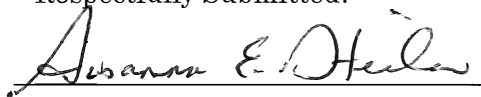
10. Next Meeting – November 16, 2021

The next meeting will be held November 16, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Member Drabik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second was made by Member McGary. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Sue Steilen
Special Events Coordinator
Village of Homer Glen