

Meeting Notes

Norwalk Hometown Pride

Community Meeting

March 5, 2018 at 5:00PM

Attendance: April Buenger, Judy Corcoran, Lorin Ditzler, Linda Echelmeyer, Katie Flinn, David Graham, Debbie Marmon, Christie Peterson, Sandie Rohrer, Deanna Schulz, Chad Smith, Jeannie Sullivan, Adam Winn

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by Hometown Pride Chair Deanna Schulz.

Schulz made the motion to approve the meeting minutes for the February meeting and Jeannie Sullivan made a comment that the text should read "committee officers" instead of "committee members" in the last sentence under the "Committee Officers" heading. Was noted and a motion was made by Linda Echelmeyer and 2nd by Debbie Marmon to approve the minutes with that text change. Motion passed.

Warren County Hometown Pride Community Coach Lorin Ditzler recapped the purpose of Hometown Pride. Ditzler passed out a list of committee members expectations and asked if there was any questions. Ditzler gave her perspective of Hometown Pride as driven by committee members and not driven by city government. Also, went over the objectives of a sub-committee as to report back to the larger group as far as details and logistics of future projects. Sullivan wanted clarification on when a sub-committee is called into play. It was answered that if details and plans go beyond the actual meeting.

Ditzler was reviewing the funding involved and the number of options such as: Fundraising, grants, city involvement and setting up of foundations. Chair Deanna Shultz stated that she got the OK to set up an account with the city and we just want to make sure good bookkeeping is done. It also was reported by Schulz that on March 29th the account will be approved and the Music in the park has a fund set up. Rohrer asked if it would be set up as a 5013c as far as tax purposes and Schulz stated that would not be set up as a 5013c. Ditzler explained that contributions can still be tax deductible since the account is through the City. Corcoran mentioned the set up of a foundation and will report back to the group.

Graham gave a report of the sub-committee meeting as they met on Monday February 26th 2018 in regards to a Music Festival as the Jazz in July lost funding. A couple of dates they discussed but they landed on September 2nd from 12-8 which is Labor Day weekend. Rohrer asked if there were any restrictions on time as far as noise is concern? Schulz answered that would not be as the fact it's on a Sunday and it was over by 8PM. Funds may be available from an existing fund with the city and there would be stage and sound set up. They would have vendors selling food and beer that were there for the festival last July. Marmon said she thought it was going to be at McAninch Sports Complex rather than City Park. Buenger asked about the pros and cons of one park over the other. Graham stated that we need a concrete stage and that is only at city park, but parking maybe an issue. Echelmeyer mentioned that the Jazz in July was at City Park last year and the parking was not an issue. Also there is a lack of shade at McAninch and there is ample shade at City Park; vendors have an easier time getting

their equipment set up; and the electricity is supplied by generators. It was also mentioned that at Jazz in July the handicap parking was at the library. This music festival would not be only Jazz and would only be amateurs/semi-professionals. Rohrer made the comment to make sure that the school was not having any events at the same time or any other events in Norwalk/Des Moines area. Smith looked up the school events and there were no events going on at that time. Sullivan mentioned that she knew of someone who could shuttle from the high school to the park if needed as her husband could be the driver. Schulz made a point to let people know that there would be a shuttle for the event. Sullivan offered to ask her local church to provide a shuttle service from the HS parking lot to the event.

It was mentioned that there is a lot of talent in Norwalk and the Norwalk FB group had several names of talented people. Resident asked how long each performance would be and how many there would be? It would be determined later on that. There was a suggestion that in between acts there would be an opportunity for open mic performers, who would not need to be paid.

The next sub-committee meeting will be on April 2nd. Sullivan asked what the costs were at this point and Schulz answered: \$3000 for the equipment. Schulz mentioned that has reached out to Corbett Reeves for the sound as he helped with the Jazz in July sound. Smith mentioned that has contacted James Biehn about the festival. Other musical acts have been reached out to playing all kinds of music. The tentative name of it is "Norwalkpalooza"

We talked about having high school students get in for free, and the vendors will pay to set up tables to self promote local businesses. Marmon mentioned that five vendors tentatively have committed to the event. Smith offered to design a T-shirt for the event.

Schulz mentioned as pointed out by Haylee Gehringer that when we reach out the businesses make sure to contact TruBank and not just City State Bank. We talked about involving 804 Main and the new Pizza Parlor.

Schulz started to go over the current and future projects. It was mentioned by Echelmeyer that the Lion's Club will be creating an Ice Ring. The question was asked about any Community center Ideas as Sullivan inquired about discussion through the social media and see what the public would like. It was announced that the school district is developing a Field House for school events such as graduation and meets.

Sullivan explained that a community center in WDM takes in \$10K a month. Ditzler stated that Windsor Heights has a community center that could be a model for ours. Sullivan will do some info gathering on existing event spaces.

Shulz stated that Crossroads Church might be willing to help as they plan to expand and have said in the past that they are willing to be of service to Norwalk as much as they can. Marmon suggested we start asking for feedback from the public and Sullivan and Marmon volunteered.

It was announced by Smith that he has created a Hometown Pride FB page and they ask for feedback there.

Schulz gave an update on the Cemetery Project as the grant was submitted on February 28th. The Lion's Club has committed to donate \$500; Rotary Club \$500; Cemetery \$500; and the city \$3400. This includes a brick landscape along North & Cherry Parkway. Also discussed with public works and will work with them as well. There will be perennials and annuals planted around the landscaping.

Schulz mentioned that due to time we can postpone the **trail** discussion until the next meeting. It was announced that there will be a presentation on trails at Warren County Economic Development this Tuesday at 4PM.

The City submitted a grant for a welcome sign and their hope is to have at least one sign and hopefully two. Due to time it was announced that other topics on the agenda will be discussed at next meeting.

Marmon made a motion the meeting be adjourned at 6:02 PM. 2nd by Buenger. Motion passed.