

April 8, 2009

The Tinley Park Community Resources Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Reta Brudd at 7:35 p.m., at the Kallsen Conference Center.

Prior to Roll Call, Chairman Brudd asked that Marcia Cummins, Erika Grotto and Nancy Kolb be removed from the roll call. All three have resigned, and new Commissioners will be appointed.

Present: Chairman Reta Brudd and Commissioners: Don Budny, Ron Centanni, Mike Cutrano, Deb Melchert, Mike Sevier, Al Siegers and Barbara Rose Whalen. Commissioner Steve Grein arrived after roll call.

Absent: Commissioners: Jack Carey, Dave Szumigalski and Barbara Rose Whalen.

Guests: Tom Staunton – Liaison Trustee and Amy Chmura.

Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Don Budny to approve the Agenda as submitted, seconded by Deb Melchert. Motion carried by voice vote.

Correspondence

Chairman Brudd read the resignation e-mail received from Erika Grotto with her new home address, and that Marcia Cummins term will be ending April 30th. Nancy Kolbe's resignation has already been given to Judy Bruning.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mike Cutrano to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2009 meeting as submitted seconded by Al Siegers. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business

Studio

No report.

Discover Tinley Booklet

The booklet is on the Village Website for receiving information.

Discover Tinley

Chairman Brudd thanked everyone for their hard work at this event. The new check-in worked out very well so Annette and Laurie were not out in the cold weather, and the event seemed to run the smoothest of any we have had..

Her only suggestion for a change was to go back to the larger program, and use any color but red paper because it was unreadable. There was a short discussion on whether or not the program was needed, but people coming in seem to be using it to locate specific booths and make

notations. Al Siegers said Marcia Cummins has always done a great job getting the program done as it is hard to put the program together more than two days before the event. Deb Melchert asked if the layout of the floor is necessary. Annette said because of the way the numbers are distributed along the rear and front walls this was a very good tool for the vendors to locate their booth. Chairman Brudd suggested a simpler layout could be done and pastel paper used.

She said she received no complaints from vendors or the public on the Expo. The only problem that occurred is that the people along the walls who needed electricity needed extension cords to reach the outlets. It was suggested that next year we advised vendors with electricity to bring a 25-foot heavy duty extension cord.

Deb Melchert and Don Budny said they both received complimentary comments from vendors. Annette Rickerson said vendors stopped and personally thanked her for her assistance during registration more than has ever occurred in the past.

Amy Chmura asked how the attendance was in comparison to the past events. Chairman Brudd said the attendance was low last year because of it being the first really nice weekend.

Annette said with the registration at the patio doors we need to ensure the corridor is open for brining in vendors equipment. The wind was blowing the doors closed and a door could have been broken. Al said next year we should have a better set up.

Chairman Brudd said she felt the new entry into the exhibit hall went very well. Al said even the vendors seemed to like this.

Al said we had the usual mess with popcorn being given out, and suggested asking the hotel if they have small sweepers or we could have some of the kids just going around with a broom and dustpan to keep up with this all day. Ron Centanni said it interrupts people. Annette said if you are anywhere like Disney World people will take the time to let kids clean up. Two kids could start at each end and work their way to the center.

Al thanked everyone who helped with the set up because it was unusual to have to put pipe and drape together at 5:00 a.m. He asked if a thank you could be sent to the radio man for his donation of radios every year. Chairman Brudd will do this.

Annette asked that a policy be set on refunds for cancellations. We had vendor that had a family emergency two days before. Luckily it was a vendor who had another booth and decided to expand his to cover the second booth.

She also said we had a problem with vendors requesting invoices from the Village who do not send invoices. Chairman Brudd suggested an invoice be drafted that could be e-mailed to the company stating due within ten days. We have companies that have not remitted their fees and will be sent payment due letters as in the past.

Deb said Denise Grein has said she does not want to do the concession stand next year because her organization has not given her the assistance she expected and she has leftovers that she can not return. The American Legion Post is willing to take over the concession stand, but request that their booth be in the same area as this year so they can rotate in to assist with the concession. Chairman Brudd said they would need to be their early to have coffee available for vendors. She also recommended lowering the variety and eliminating the candy. Denise has done a fabulous job that is greatly appreciated.

Deb also volunteered to contact the Disabled Veterans Association to request their van to service veterans. This could be set up outside to answer any questions the veterans may have.

Chairman Brudd said that the Lions Club now does the hearing screening, and we should contact them for next year.

Don Budny said Heart and Sole –Ballroom Dancing would like to put on an exhibition next year.

Trustee Staunton said he thought the expo was great, and that the Commission does a great job. He especially like the way the one area that was set up for the veterans and services in the area of the concession stand. He also said he has heard no complaints.

Al asked if Deb could attempt to get the moving wall for veterans. Trustee Staunton suggested requesting this for two years from now because of the construction that will be occurring in the area.

Scholarships

Don Budny reported that fifty applications were received and are currently being judged. We will attempt to have them given out at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

New Business

Christmas Programs

Chairman Brudd said because of the current economy the Village wants to do is hold all of the events; Santa Arrival, Parade and Market on the same weekend. They are looking at the first week in December.

Amy Chmura said there is no idea on how this will be done because of the number of groups and officials that will need to coordinate the events. A subcommittee would be set up to work on these programs called the Christmas Committee involving members of the CRC, MSC, OPAMA, Tinley Park Chamber, and Village Officials to make this work.

Chairman Brudd asked that they remember that volunteers have other jobs and can not make day time meetings.

Amy feels we need to do this early because there would be a number of questions arising. She also said the Summer Events, Carriage Rides and other things were also decreased.

Chairman Brudd asked if the proposed construction at the train station would interfere with the Christmas Programs.

Trustee Staunton said there are not funds budgeted for the parking garage this year and the north side of the train station should be available.

Ron Centanni asked if the Village Board is considering this as a temporary thing that may go back to the original programs in a year or two. Trustee Staunton said this is being done because of budget constraints and would return to the former programming. If we bring this back to two weekends it brings more people to the downtown businesses.

Chairman Brudd said we will be adding on four new commissioners, and she would prefer not to exclude anyone from the committee. She also asked who would be the deciding factor in decisions staff or commission members. She would prefer not to have a viable program set and then overturned by staff because the volunteers need to have some equity in this.

Trustee Staunton said there would be a committee of two or three groups and staff members. He feels the Trustees should be kept abreast of what occurs at the meetings.

Amy said there should be a consensus of whatever the committee members put together.

Trustee Staunton said it could possibly be a three day program including all of the events.

Chairman Brudd would like to see the Santa Arrival on Sunday because people are used to that day. She feels there will be people there the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and publicity and signs will be needed to announce the change. She strongly feels Santa should not be at the Market on or in the train station on the days before if the arrival is on Sunday. She said another drawback may be the announcing of tickets to see Santa when the entertainment is going on.

Trustee Staunton said you may want to have Santa arrive on Saturday night to light the tree and be there on Sunday to greet the children.

Chairman Brudd feels this is a lot to ask of the volunteers when they are also working the Market. We also give away cookies and hot chocolate that the Market sells. We would also need electric freed up for the Ferris wheel and train.

Al said he does not know how much input is wanted at the committee meeting. He asked if we could take one year off with the market because of the cost for that event versus the cost of the arrival for tents, heaters and public work employees.

Ron said the market is a recent thing that would not be huge to eliminate for one year, but the tradition of the Santa's Arrival is for thirty years on the same day.

Trustee Staunton said this could be mentioned to the Village Board, but this is something the committee would need to discuss.

Chairman Brudd said our use of the public works employees is minimal compared to what they use at the market.

Trustee Staunton said there may be issues with this because they are in talks to be a union shop and are automatically under union bylaws.

Al said another option would be for the CRC to not man the Village Booth for one year.

Don said having the program for three days is putting a lot of pressure on the volunteers because they need to set up on Thursday that adds another day.

Amy said the Caribbean Beach Party budget has also been cut, and they will be having less rides and entertainment. She does not see that we are just shoving all of the events together to make it work. We need to have something that makes sense to the residents that they like. They will be looking for free things to do if the economy is still bad, and we want to cause good will. We will make do this year, and see what happens next year.

Chairman Brudd reinforced that this is a one year thing to keep down expenses.

Al asked if the 80th Avenue train station would be done by Christmas. It is not contemplated.

Amy said a date would be set up an evening meeting after the 1st of May. Chairman Brudd encourages those members of the commission who wish to attend come to the meeting. She said we need direction on what the Village Board wants.

Trustee Staunton said he wants to see all of the events if possible. It is important to have the Santa Arrival; if the market can not go in so be it; the parade is usually on a cold evening, but he would keep it.

Amy said maybe the parade could be switched to daytime. There are a number of ideas that could be looked at.

Trustee Staunton will discuss with the Village Board what their priorities are.

Chairman Brudd said we need direction, and although we are invested in the market, the Santa Arrival has been a free event held for a long time on the same day.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Deb Melchert and seconded by Don Budny to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

