

# MEETING MINUTES



Village of Homewood  
Community Relations Commission  
Minutes from January 13, 2020

Village Board Room  
2020 Chestnut  
Homewood, IL 60430

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## CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** Phil Kosanovich, Andre Thames, Robert Pascarella, Tom Hamilton, Heather O'Malley, Shannon Olison, Nancy Spaniak, were present. In attendance from the Village Board, Mayor Hofeld and Trustee Lauren Roman. Village Staff Liaison in attendance, Jen Quirke and Allisa Opyd. From the public in attendance, Keith Harris future member of the Community Relations Committee.

**Not in Attendance:** Troy O'Quin, Gianni Sansone, Ardell Roundtree.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** H.O'Malley motioned to approve the minutes, A.Thames seconded the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS:

### A. Introduce New Committee Member Keith Harris

K. Harris will be sworn in to the Community Relation Committee at the January 14, Village Board meeting. He has lived in Homewood since 2007. Welcome Keith to the committee.

### B. Holiday Light Review

A. Opyd asked the committee what their thoughts were about Holiday Lights and what changes for 2020? S. Olison said the newly installed speakers in the downtown were very helpful in creating a festive atmosphere. The committee discussed better signage is needed, especially as the event continues to grow, possibly signs at eye level. We continue to have electrical issues for the mulled wine sales. Renting the tall heaters and having a tent for cookie decorating and craft worked well. Consider having two heated tents one for cookie decorating and the other for crafts. Place tents at opposite ends of the event footprint. The 6oz mugs worked very well for the mulled wine sales. Next year, consider 600 mugs and less wine.

### C. Noon Year's Eve Day

The group all agreed that having a show every year is the best entertainment. Chicago Boyz Acrobats were amazing and the Village should have them return more often. We need to continue to have high-energy entertainment.

**D. Chocolate Fest: February 22, 11AM-2PM**

The event will take place in the HF Auditorium and with independent bakers and chocolatiers, baking demonstration, and crafts for kids. Review volunteer task list at the next Community Relations Committee meeting.

**E. Review 2020 Event Calendar**

- INDOOR FARMERS MARKET-Saturdays, January 25, February 29, March 28, April 25, 8:00 AM to 12:00PM, Marie Irwin Center.
- MAYOR'S ARCTIC DIP-Saturday, February 1, 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, Homewood Science Center.
- CHOCOLATE FEST- Saturday, February 22, 11:00AM-2:00PM, 2010 Chestnut- Homewood Auditorium.
- HOMEWOOD BASEBALL PARADE-Saturday, April 18 11:00 AM, Ridge Road-*not a village sponsored parade.*
- RAIL FEST –Saturday, May 16, 9:00 AM-2:00PM, 2010 Chestnut, Homewood Auditorium and Martin Ave Square.
- FARMERS MARKET- Saturdays, May 23 Opening Day – Last Day October 10, Saturdays, 8:00AM to 1:00PM.
- MEMORIAL DAY PARADE-Monday, May 25, 10:30 AM Step-off at St. Joseph's Church.
- ARTISAN STREET FAIR –Friday, June 5, 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM Downtown Homewood on Martin Avenue and Saturday, June 6, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, after party 6PM-9PM.
- WEDNESDAY NIGHT MARKET, 5:00 PM to 9:00PM, Martin Avenue Square, June 10, June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22, July 25, July 29, August 5, August 12.
- DRIVE THE DIXIE –Tentative Date Saturday, June 13, downtown Homewood and Dixie Highway.
- LIGHTHOUSE PRIDE PARTY-Friday, June 26, 5:00 PM 9:00 PM, Martin Avenue Square.
- INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE –Saturday, July 4, 10:00AM step-off, downtown Homewood.
- NATIONAL NIGHT OUT- Tuesday, August 4, 5:00PM -8:00PM, Irwin Park, sponsored by Homewood Police Department.
- FALL FEST- Saturday, September 26, 12:00AM-9:00PM, located on Martin Avenue.
- HOLIDAY LIGHTS-Friday, December 4, 5:00PM-9:00PM, located in downtown Homewood.
- MIRACLE ON MARTIN Saturday, December 12, 3:00 PM TO 6:00PM, Martin Avenue Square.
- NOON YEARS EVE-Thursday, DECEMBER 31, 10:30AM-1PM, set-up on December 30, located at 2010 Chestnut, Homewood Auditorium.

## **Additional Event:**

- SSHS Run TBD
- 0.3K HBA Run-Saturday, September 18
- Walk of Hope-Sunday, October 4
- SSFS 40 year celebration possibly on Martin Ave Square tentatively Saturday, July 25
- SSFS Candlelight Vigil Thursday, October 1, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM. Irwin Park
- Ice Cream Social for the Army Reserve homecoming date TBD
- Three movie nights on Martin Avenue Square, dates TBD
- The Village is finalizing co-sponsored events with the HBA and HAC
- Wellness Fest, Saturday, July 18, noon to 8pm, footprint of the farmers market

## **F. Review Community Relations Meeting Dates for 2020**

February 3, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July will be used to decorate the July 4 float, August 3, September 14, October 5, November 16, December 7.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Mayor Hofeld reviewed with the committee Village updates.

- There are no updates from The Village for the casino or Calumet Country Club.
- Speakers were installed throughout the downtown at the end of November with positive feedback. The music enhances the downtown experience for people shopping and dining.
- The Village is reviewing plans to extend Tivoli lights from Martin Avenue Square to Chestnut Road.
- The Triumph building tentative demolition date is end of March, early April.
- EmpanadaUS have their building permits and can start construction on their building.
- Village water line changes will take place 2022. The Village will no longer be receiving Chicago water via Harvey. Water will come from Hammond IN, via Chicago Heights.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 3, at 7:00PM

**ADJOURNMENT:** N. Spaniak motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was received a second by member T. Hamilton.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allisa Opyd