

MEETING MINUTES



Village of Homewood
Community Relations Commission
For August 5, 2019 Minutes

Village Board Room
2020 Chestnut
Homewood, IL 60430

CALL TO ORDER:

7:05PM

ROLL CALL: Phil Kosanovich, Andre Thames, Gianni Sansone, Robert Pascarella, Shannon Olison, Tom Hamilton, Nancy Spaniak, Heather O'Mally, Troy O'Quin

Not in Attendance: Ardell Roundtree

Board and Staff Liaison in attendance: Staff Liaison Jennifer Quirke and Allisa Opyd, Board Liaison Lauren Roman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Spaniak motioned for approval and member Olison seconded the official minutes from July 1, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Introduction of Heather O'Malley, new member of the Community Relations Committee. She lives in the Southgate area, has two children, and is eager to volunteer.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Review July 4 Parade

The Committee discussed the parade changes implemented this year. The rubric used for judging the parade floats was successful. Having 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place winners made judging easier. Winners 1st place: Calvary Church, 2nd place: Homewood Disposal, and 3rd place: Dairy Queen. The group suggested placing the contest on the parade application. Next year, invite winners to lead the parade.

The group reviewed the Quiet Zone to determine if changes need to be made for the zone placement. The Village received some negative feedback to have the Quiet Zone towards the end of the parade route. The group determined to keep the Quiet Zone on Dixie Highway, before the turn on to Ridge Road, it is a natural separation. However, sirens will not start until the post office.

Things to remember for 2020

- Add to the application, "If the float will have music?"
- Add to the application floats will be judged at 9AM
- Research earbuds to hand out before the parade
- Line-up starts at 8:30 AM, at St. Joseph's Church parking lot
- The CRC will not hand out taffy candy

- B. Homewood's Giant Block Party:** The Community Relations Committee will host Homewood's Giant Block Party on Saturday, August 17, noon-9pm. The event will continue with the inflatable activities; however, new this year, instead of the zip line there will be a Euro-Bungy. HF PAC will have volunteers assisting with the games and inflatables. Quirke and Opyd will be at the Village tent to have residents "pin" on a map where they live in Homewood. Kosanovich discussed the concerns of people crossing Ridge Road and asked if a Community Service Officer can park at Martin and Ridge Road.
- C. National Night Out:** The Homewood Police Department will host National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 5PM-8PM, in Irwin Park. New this year, the Police Department has collaborated with Home Depot in handing out blue light bulbs. The light bulbs were handed out at the August 3, Saturday farmers market and more will be handed out at National Night Out. The blue light bulbs are to be used in porch lights on August 6. The event will have summer fare from local restaurants, ice cream eating contest, water balloon toss with an officer, and hula-hoop contest. All will have an opportunity to view a medical helicopter in Irwin Park.
- D. Fall Fest:** Opyd reviewed new Fall Fest programming: HF Park District's Safety Bike, mechanical ponies, Pumpkin Carving Contest, and the bags tournament will return. The movie Aladdin, with Will Smith, will start at dusk. The committee discussed how to recruit more participants for the Chili Cook-Off. Quirke discussed that she and Opyd will be meeting with last year's winner to understand how other communities host their Chili Cook-Off contest. Members reviewed ideas for the Cook-Off:
- Offer \$20 to each participant to offset the cost of making three gallons of Chili.
 - To have businesses participate, offer to have their name on napkins.
 - Promote their business on social media.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Quirke reviewed with the group Calumet Country Club purchase and Homewood train station.

Calumet Country Club

The Village has had conversations with the owners of Calumet Country Club and the Developer purchasing the club. There will be additional meetings to brief the public on the status of the purchase and development. At this point, the owners of the club are positioning themselves to disconnect from Homewood to pursue their development plans.

Homewood Train Station

Homewood was awarded approximately 9 million dollars to renovate the train station. However, Chicago is contesting the methodology used to determine the funding for train station renovations. The Village is asking commuters and residents to write a letter/email to Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) to stress the need for a renovated station and to give the full amount awarded, not a partial amount. Quirke has created a letter/email for people to send. CMAP is accepting letters/emails until August 16. Service Transportation Program Selection Committee will make a decision the end of September if the funding amount will be modified.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 9, 2019, at 7:00PM

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn from Hamilton and seconded by Pascarella. The group adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Allisa Opyd