

Community Events Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2012

Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Les Dion, Barbara Greenwood, Chief Steve Yannuzzi, Joe Denning, Lucille Keegan

Meeting called to order 10:00 a.m.

Events:

Fire Department Dinner

About 65 people attended and the Fire Company profited about \$560. During the dinner there was a fire call, although not planned was definitely a good PR item. People were able to watch them get ready for the call and see the crew in action. The Chief did state that they want to continue the event but it is a lot of work for such a small group of volunteers.

5K Fun Walk

Not as many people as past years. The time and advertising was wrong on the posters, but it only caused 5 people to arrive late. The event provider, Karen Schaffner, believes that this is the 3rd year with an issue in the advertising. The Committee felt it would be best if Karen submitted her advertising directly to Claire for any future years, therefore eliminating any potential issues with the middle person and she could then proof any submissions from Claire to the newspapers etc.

Crafts/Vendors

This group of crafters and vendors was a very upbeat group. Janice Dellacroce did a great job setting up the field. More people were buying this year than last. It was suggested to set a time frame to register by a deadline at \$25 and then increase it to \$35 after that date to encourage early registration. It was also suggested to rent usage of tables for \$5.00. The TTCC will review these ideas and take them into consideration for next year. One issue that occurred was the time limits for the food to sell. Food vendors were supposed to leave by 2:00 but both the Lions and the Trolley stayed. There was a concern that this could affect the dinner. If the food vendors are used going forward the Town can add a condition on the Old Home Day permitting that expires the permit by a certain time frame. In addition, other vendors were not supposed to sell hotdogs or hamburgers and they did. It was suggested that the event only allow non-profit food vendors for next year.

Obstacle Course/Water Wars

These events were busy all day, which meant that there were families on the park. The total for the two items was \$1750. Parents commented that it was nice to not have to pay or worry about what the kids were doing. It was a great part of the day's events and definitely a keeper for next year. We could even consider a Fire Department spray time for next year.

Horse rides

Joe reported that Marla said that the day was awesome. She was very busy during her time there.

Horseshoes

There were a lot of people watching and participating. Les will get a list of the winners.

Softball

A good game between TTCC staff/coaches and the Police Department, with the Police Department winning.

Movie

Excellent movie and event and Scott Desmond did a great job. The baseball group has been looking at doing this for the past 3 years. The equipment was here and Scott just got it up and going for this year. Definitely a good idea for next year's Old Home Day.

Fireworks

This was a great show that lasted for about 20 minutes that was well worth the money and was a good start time at 9:30. Next year the Fire Department will push the set up location further back.

Bingo

Had about 30 people playing and was also a good addition to the day.

DJ

Comments were that it was too loud for this event and it was recommended that we look into live bands performing throughout the day. Budget for the DJ is about \$300 but maybe we could add some funds into this idea. There was a band out in the small common area during the day that performed for free.

Tent

The tent was set up early and was ready to go with tables and chairs. It was \$125 and well worth the price. It made a huge difference during the day to allow for people to get out of the sun. The Historical Society at the end of the tent also allowed for people to view the records and relax.

Dinner

The TTCC will think about a different time for next year of possibly 5:30 to 7:00. In past years the weather seemed to affect the numbers, but the lobsters this year didn't sell as much either. They had approximately 90 lobsters left over to sell and they did wrapping for take home. Chicken went like crazy and was much easier to cook on the grill. Frank did a great job. The TTCC will also consider wrapped desserts during the day to help avoid the nighttime preparation required and keep desserts in better conditions.

Clean up

The Committee needs to get a clean-up crew in for Sunday to help assist with the fireworks debris and garbage etc. This is possibly a Town Department but this would need to be further discussed for next year.

Other

The timing of the event was discussed and it is agreed that the start of about 10:30 is good and doesn't need to be changed.

A lot of people attended the event throughout the day. It was a steady crowd.

The Football game was a scrimmage game that started at 2:00 pm. The only downside for this event coinciding with the Old Home Day is that it spread out the Fire Department between the two locations, to cover the game and attend the event.

Joe volunteered to write an article for the Town Crier, thanking all who helped.

Cones and signs were delivered by Highway as requested with no issues.

Coffee was also a hit for the morning and should be continued. The profit was minimal at \$11 but well received.

Concerts

Uncle Steve's Band – 175 to 200 attended – hard to hear but it was the first concert – recommended to move them to the closing night concert and end the season next year with this band.

Natalie Turgeon – 190 to 210 attended – good band, very hot night, but group agreed to try someone new for next year

Ben Rudnick – 200 attended – although this band was great, the Town has had for 2 years and it might be beneficial to have another kid/family band for next year.

Rainy Tuesday – 60 attended at Old Town Hall – would like to move this group to be one of the Old Home Day performers

Kid Jazz – 100 attended – recommended moving this group to be one of the Old Home Day performers

Lunch at the Dump – 100 attended – great band and we should bring back next year...they worked well with the electrical issues of all the outlets being pulled off the pavilion that day. A new box was installed but not located in time for the concert. They started at 6:45 and ended well after 8:00.

Crunchy Western Boys – 175 attended – recommended kicking off the concerts with this band next year.

Budget

We will still move forward with recommending a one line budget for next year's budget submission. This will have a line for the contract with Creative Promotions/Claire and then one called Community Events, which will cover all events of the year from Summer Concerts to Old Home Day and beyond.

Claire lowered her bill due to deaths in the family and her concern about not being able to attend the meetings. Her contract did not require her attendance at meetings and her work was on time and completed as contracted. The Committee agreed that there was no need for a reduction and will be paying the full contract amount.

Other

The Lights on Event is coming up, with an organizational meeting on September 5th at 3:30 and then the event is scheduled for October 18th from 5-8 at Kelley Park. This event is a National celebration of Afterschool Programming and Planning. In 2011 they had about 372 people in attendance.

Apple Festival is October 6.

The next meeting for the Community Events Committee will be scheduled on Wednesday, September 26, at 10:00am to prepare for upcoming fall events.