

Community Events Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2015

Committee Members in Attendance: Les Dion, Christina Goodwin, Hilda Bruno, Kris Bean, Marj Gorman, Lucille Keegan, Chief Yannuzzi, Barbara Greenwood, Al Blakely

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

### Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from October 21, 2015. **Marj Gorman motioned to accept the minutes as written, Lucille Keegan 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### Halloween Evaluation

Comments:

- Best ever
- Biggest group of participants in the parade
- Excellent event overall
- Great idea with the Zombie zone competition – there were 115 entries and kids and adults both loved the idea. Pat's Pizzeria donated the third place gift certificate.
- The weather was great and the event was on a weekend so a bigger turnout than normal.
- Lion's club location was great – out of the way but fully a part of the event and they loved the spot and would like to have the same spot if able for the Christmas Tree Lighting.
- Great job by the Decoration Committee – scarecrows, milk jug decorations, ghosts – all good comments and the downtown area looked great.
- Use of the downtown area instead of the parking area by TD Bank was a big hit and improved pedestrian traffic flow.

Concerns/Recommendations:

- Suggested to advertise for families to come join the fun and hand out candy downtown or donate candy if they don't get a lot of children at their home. A lot of businesses including the Library ran out of candy early.
- Very dark in the area down by Dorcas Gordon. This area is visited by large groups as the music and fog machines draw attention, so we might need to consider lighting up the area with a fire truck or light tower next year, especially since two lights are scheduled to be shut off on the bridge near that area by the State.
- It was asked if we should consider shortening the time. After discussion, it was determined that the parade really takes up a chunk of that time and it is believed that the three hours are good for families.
- Zombie Zone signs should be adjusted for next year. They stated that you were entering the Zone but not that you were exiting so it was hard to place the signs on the barricades. Will add exit signs for next year. Zombies should be more centrally located and not crossing back and forth on the streets. Card distribution should be coordinated better. Delivery of the entry form

bin should be coordinated better. Should schedule a meeting with the Zombies to discuss directions, dress for weather etc. Should consider some type of game to be added for the adults next year.

- Christina will work on Thank you cards for the key participants.
- Parade – Miscommunication on the line-up. Gap in parade caused by kids beginning trick or treating instead of finishing the parade. Committee should work on more floats for next year. Recommending considering going back to Lake Street and shutting it down for the parade. Have someone at the parade start lining up floats, entries, and kids – giving them directions to wait to trick or treat until the parade end or set up a pop-up tent with an information sign and directions and to hand out Zombie Zone cards.

### **Tree Lighting**

Announcer – Al Blakely – Les will have a speech set up for Al with a list of the different things to mention during the time. Lucille and Hilda will work on a black coat and top hat for Al to wear. It was recommended that he also dress warm.

Carolers – Hilda and Lucille are working on and they will be set up downtown like before. Christina will make sure the Town PA system is all set to be there.

Pictures – Recommended to see if John Bianchi wants to take pictures

Characters –

Turtle – at this time is yes to participate

Grinch – at this time is yes to participate

Santa – Mike Lemieux is all set and will be at the Fire Department before 6pm

Snowman and Reindeer – In progress

It was determined that although the delivery of characters in Town vehicles is a great idea, the logistics aren't going to work and it would be better to have the characters meet at the TTCC and walk down from there into the Square. The characters will then lead Santa back up to the TTCC for a meet and greet with kids.

Tree - Lucille and Hilda have picked out the tree. It has been donated by Sandra Hawkins in Plymouth. Mark Bucklin will be picking up in the next week.

Logistics of event are a concern, so the Committee decided to send an invitation out to the business list to discuss and also to check on the events planned for the holidays for input. This meeting has been scheduled for 11/18/15 at 8:00am. Christina will do an email blast and add to the Town Crier.

### **Holiday Decorating Contest**

Christina and Les will work on the rules and registration form and have ready for the next meeting. Entries will be due by 12/14 at 5:00 pm. It was recommended to consider public votes next year if this year works out. Judges are TBD. Cash prize for residential property TBD, considering \$50.

### **Other**

The Committee would like to consider a coloring competition for kids to get them involved in the holidays. Shop 'n Save used to do them, so the Committee will check with there first.

### **Meetings**

**Regular Committee meetings are normally held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 10:00am at the TTCC and additional meetings are scheduled as needed.**

**The next meeting for the Business to participate is Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 8:00 am and will be followed by a Regular Committee meeting at 9:00 am at the TTCC.**

Having no other business to conduct the Community Events Committee was adjourned at 11:30 am.