

Meeting: 10/12/17 Time: 11:00-12:38

In Attendance:

* Dan Stephens - Melissa Yeso - Rita Randall
* Rev. Webster - Marian - Betty Suto
* Anthony Orsini - Elizabeth James -
* Barb Ballint - Katie Kendall -

Call to Meeting

* Dan called the meeting to order with providing an Agenda for todays meeting.
* Katie stated that most of the topics under “Winterfest” could be saved for the Winterfest Committee meeting that is later today, at 3:30pm.
* Barb, Betty and Marian agreed for us to stay on topic and save it for later.

**Farmer’s Market**

* It was discussed the dates in which the Farmer’s market should run for next year. As of now, Missy suggested, along with Reverend Webster that it be from Memorial Day until Labor Day.
* Betty said that the vendors reported that this past Friday’s market was a success and the vendors stated that they did well in regards to profit.
* Melissa asked to have flyers made for next years Farmer’s market. One of the vendors asked her to have that, along with flyers for Winterfest, so she could pass out to other events she attends to the other vendors.
* Rev. Webster was approached by a vendor who would like to sell the next time we start the Farmers market. It would be another Pet (Dog) treat vendor.
* Missy does not want them to participate due to approaching them last spring when she asked them if they would like to be a part of it, they told her no, they didn’t want to have to deal with all the licensing.
* Barb Ballint made a motion to not allow them to participate
* Betty Suto seconded the motion
* All in favor, everyone said “I”
* It was agreed that they would not participate in the Farmers Markets as long as we have our current pet food vendor.
* Melissa asked about the Food Vendors participating on set schedule and on Farmer Market Fridays for next year.
* Barb suggested that we put together a list of Food Trucks, which we can get from the Health Department (that are already approved), and we start on a schedule and sign up sheet for dates for next year, so schedules can align with the food trucks and there will be no confusion and no miscommunication on what Food truck will be available for the day, and when.
* Marian stated that she felt all the food trucks did very well when they did set up
* Barb suggested that we appoint someone in charge of the Food trucks
* Katie seconded that
* No one volunteered for that job
* Missy told the group that the hospital’s new owner, Alectco, was encouraging all employees to now use the Cafeteria, and their lunch breaks were shortened, so time did not permit them from leaving at lunch.
* Barb suggested that once we get a list together and a calendar of food trucks for specific days, that we send it to each of the schools, to help increase the traffic for the Food Truck vendors.
* Missy suggested asking Chris or Chuck, who are both familiar with the Food Truck scene to see if either want to approach them vendors for next year.
* Dan had the idea that we continue to give them the first 2 months free, but we ask them to make donations of some sort ($25, $50, +) back to the Project Forward Organization.
* Betty asked what happened to the food trucks that were suppose to be present this past Sunday (Rubbernecker Tour)
* Rev. Webster answered by saying, “They weren’t here. There were some miscommunications in that area”.
* Rev. Webster said that he would put together a flyer advertising for next years farmers market.
* Barb said she would draft a letter for the food trucks for next year
* Marian recommended adding that the Farmers Market is on Fridays in the Food Truck letter
* Barb asked about contact information for the vendors if they had questions
* Betty said that they can call her at the Mayors office
* Anthony asked about food trucks that could potentially want every Friday of the Farmers market
* Most agreed that more the merrier on Fridays
* Barb suggested not having more than 3 food trucks on Friday.
* Barb is going to make a spreadsheet for Betty for when the Food truck vendors call and sign up for their spots.

Rubbernecker Tour

-Barb asked if we could recap the Rubbernecker tour. She felt that we have a lot of great ideas and great flow of conversation when we get together, but the e-mail (Katie’s) brought awareness that we really need to do a better job of communicating. She apologized if she had anything to do with the lack of communication around the Rubbernecker tour, because we did not get the turn out that we expected. She did state that the Sedgewick Museum had over 80 people sign in on Sunday, but not everyone that came to the museum signed in, so there were more. She appreciated those who did come out and help, and those who stuck it out with the weather.

- Dan said he was worried that the people who went to Walnut Grove did not come this way towards the Gazebo and Museum.

-Betty said the donations for the hot dogs were good, and that she thought we made around $45-$50.

-Rev. Webster said that we had some communication problems and the weather was not the best, but it was the communication that hurt us.

-Betty complimented the doors and said, “they look great”.

- Barb asked if they were Polyurethane and if they needed knobs.

- Dan said that many people leading up to the Rubberneckers tour asked if they could purchase Corn Stalk and/or Hay Bails. He suggested that maybe next year we have someone sell it to us, and we can try and sell this at one of the farmers markets

-Barb said that she was not disappointed with the Rubbernecker tour, and they had a ton of people at the dam. It will be moved next year to a new location, closer to Powhatan Point.

- Betty mentioned that we still have 3 gift certificates, for Johnny Ayers and for Jacob and Sons. Are we going to save them for Winterfest

- Marian suggested that we do a basket or 50/50 at Winterfest including them.

-Dan spoke with Bill from Carolina furniture, and he is willing to donate a Laz-E-Boy for Santa’s Chair, and we also can use the lower space of the billboard at the Carolina lot for Winterfest.

- Barb suggested that we send a Thank you Note to him, but also to any of our sponsors and donors.

- Barb asked if maybe Briggs Photo’s would have a chair that would be more Santa appropriate.

**DECORATIONS/WINTERFEST**

Dan/Missy both suggested DJ Danner, and that he could also possible take the pictures for free as a advertising opportunity.

Rev. Webster – Let’s talk about that Winter Fest. Dan wrote on the agenda about cleaning up decorations.

Dan – Chris said the city may be able to pick up the corn stocks and take them to the cemetery. The Hay Bails, we need to get them back to the lot, we are going to use for seating.

Missy – We are giving the business opportunities to do what they would like with the Mums

Dan – Also, I would like to see us reach out to other groups in our area, like the Lions Club. How we can work with them, and help, reach out to the Elks, Masons, Lions.

Marian – I mentioned to Joann Regis, maybe someone from the Parade come to the Christmas meeting. I don’t know if she will be here, but I thought someone should come to the meeting.

Dan – He spoke to Chris about the parade route. They are still confused with it, but they think it is going to end by the Fire station. Mac is going to be leading the parade, and we can have him take it where it needs to go to.

Betty – Joann just brought the plans for the route of the parade today. They handed them the parade route and it does not work with Winterfest. I don’t know why they can’t have them turn left.

Rev. Webster – They can end in front of the Grace church steps, the judges stand.

Barb – It would be perfect to end in front f the Gazebo

Rev. Webster - but the problem is we have set up for Winterfest there

Marian – Where are the people ending going to go, if the front of the parade is ending and it is still going.

Rev. Webster – We need to check with Chris where the Beer License says it goes. We can’t move that.

Dan - I think he put 418 Hanover, and that is the whole lot.

Anthony – I think it is actually boundaries, anywhere on the boundaries, it is not just an address.

Katie – I have on the Winterfest list that we have to map out all of our stuff for the event, I think once we know where we are putting stuff, then we can work on the route for the parade.

Betty – I love the Snowflake as our t-shirt/banner design. I have the this (showed sign) that people can hang up in their windows.

**PROJECTS:**

Dan – the last part of the agenda is the projects that I had on here, so we can raise some money to support our events.

Missy – Can we move the Ohio’s First Settlement sign

Barb – I have suggested that to Chris, that we should try and move it to the 5th Street Exit on the opposite side.

Marian – We should check to make sure that the person who donated it, we have to make sure that it wasn’t donated with that spot in the intention.

Barb - Rita, can you find out is it was Barbara Springer’s family, I will call Barbara and talk to her.

Missy – When the Lions discussed doing it, we had to go through a lot of ODOT loops to get our current wall there.

Barb – Who owns that lot, the city. I will look into the possibility of moving the Wooden First Settlement Sign to 5th Street location by the next meeting.

Dan – IF we can do the digital sign with the Lions wall down there.

Barb – I am just concerned with a busy sign and an already busy intersection.

Missy – If we can talk to Chuck and his artists about designing the murals.

Barb – That is River properties, that is Carson, Carson owns Ohio River Properties.

Missy – Redmans would be another good place for Murals

Dan – We are doing a sign for people who are donating, on the side of Redmans, we are going to do a sign that is a big present, with “To Martins Ferry, with a From, All the donors”.

Dan – Are the Redmans still an organization?

Rev. Webster – I saw someone go in there a few weeks ago to play Bingo. They lost their liquor license.

Missy – The Bingo license was reinstated, but the club itself is going under.

Barb – Bonnie Howells and Patti Hunker, they use to run the fish fries. They may be able to give you info on who the right person to talk to is at the Redmans.

Marian – I can bring you the decorations of what we have.

Missy – I will bring up, as we cut down the trees, there are name plates by the trees, and find a spot to put the trees plates somewhere in the park. I wish there was a way for us to replace the pretty that is being torn down.

Barb – We need as a group, to fund this replacement, and do seasonal.

Missy- The company I found, Bronners, $70.00/each for a new flag. Sherrie said she will actually take those around and ask the businesses what they want to purchase. We have 3 designs the business can purchase, with their names as advertising. We also have the wreaths, and the lions have their garlands.

Marian – The wreaths now is that plastic looking garland green. They are working on them.

Missy – The Banners we are looking at are 21w x 30l

Marian – and the brackets will be long enough to go over, so they don’t hit the city

Missy – I am going to leave what is up there, up there. I am just going to replace

Dan – If I can get businesses to donate $100.00 each, will that be enough?

Missy – Yes

Katie – I think we need to definitely price that out prior to.

Barb – We need to get those ordered by \_\_\_\_\_\_. We need a date.

Barb – Can you print out a picture of it to take when we ask each business.

Dan – Those who are not interested in doing the banners, when we go back with the businesses, we can ask if they have rethought about the banners.

Missy- Since you (Dan) are dealing with the sponsorship aspect, and Sherry is going to deal with the banner aspect.

Dan – Does anyone have a connection to WTOV-9. I want to get advertising, but free. So we can explain what we are doing.

Marian – We can try and exchange sponsorship for advertising.

Katie – I wanted to bring up the decorations, I know that we charged the businesses $25.00 for decorations, I am not sure what our total was that we collected from that, but I am can’t imagine it equals or is more than what was put in. Which, reminds me of reimbursing those who put money into it.

Dan – The cash that was given to me, I would buy more for the other businesses.

Missy- We spent close $1,100.00. We can wait until donations and other things come in. I do have receipts.

ALL – We were not expecting

Rev. Webster – Put down $50.00 for next year in matters of what we should charge.

Rev. Webster – We need to set a date for the next meeting, November 9th at 11:00. We are still free flowing

Barb – We suggested, that we do a chair, treasurer, secretary.

Katie - I motion that we set that up.

Marian – I second that

Betty – I second that

Barb – I had a really successful meeting with all the Chamber Commerce’s of Belmont. They all love what is going on in Ferry. A lot of them loved the decorations. But, there was a suggestion, not sure if this is a chamber or Project Forward, but some how sprucing up our empty Window Vents.

Rev. Webster – “ Your dream can start here”

Anthony – We did window clings, they were not that expensive. We aren’t altering, but at least we can reuse it. We have to just ask the business owners.

Marian – I like the other motto that was mentioned

Barb – We have company coming, so get your communities cleaned up. Clean up! We have to make our communities welcoming and cleaned up because people are coming. Just like your mom use to say, company is coming. “Company is coming, let’s cleaned up”.

Missy – A slogan for what we are trying to do, make our mission part of our slogan.

Barb – let’s make our December meeting, more on how we can become more of an organization.

Missy – A little info on the lions. They are kind of Self imploding and Losing membership. As we continue, we have to keep that in track

Dan- I agree we should have those positions, but keep that

Missy – Since we welcome to the community, do we give anyone voting rotes

Barb - We need to establish, that they have been here so many consecutive times before getting voting rights and lay out our structure.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE NOVEMBER 9th at 11:00am in Webster Hall (This is the entire Project Forward Committee meeting**

Barb Motioned to Adjourn meeting, Dan Second!