

**Community Relations Committee
MINUTES
March 3, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM in the Town Hall.

Members Present: Wicca Davidson (Chair), Bob Lyford, Julie Stanish, Ann Wild, Lorraine Rendleman, Bridget Hartman, Julie Trocchio, Barbara Rose, Kathie Legg, Loretta Sevier, and Chris Files.

Ann Wild made a motion that was seconded by Bob Lyford to approve the minutes of the February 4 meeting. The Committee then unanimously approved these minutes.

Old Business—Events/Community Service:

- Magic Show – Magician Michael Chamberlain performed his magic show to a packed audience of about 80 attendees on Friday, February 5. Both parents and children of various ages loved it. Recommendation: The Town needs a pizza cutter!
- Discussion and Desserts – On Thursday, February 18, Aki Peritz gave an excellent presentation on ISIS. The program was well received by about 40 residents. Loretta Sevier acting as moderator and calling on people to ask questions was very helpful. Recommendation: Announce at the start of these programs to save questions for the end.
- Chili Dinner – Bridget Hartman reported on this highly successful event held on Sunday, February 21. About 140 adults and 36 children attended. The Bob Brown Puppeteer was a great hit. Bridget reported that Kim Waiyaboon's hard work was a key to this event's success. Wicca Davidson will write to Todd Hoffman to let him know how indispensable she was. The Committee also commended Bridget for her efforts at helping to coordinate the event. Over \$1,000 was donated by attendees to the Manna Food Center, which serves Montgomery County residents who experience food shortage. Recommendations: Bring back the cole slaw next year, make hot dogs available to anyone who wants them, provide more beans, repeat the ice cream, and try to find a food vendor who can supply better chili as well as servers.
- Movie Night for Families – The showing of *Finding Nemo* on Friday, February 12, was a great hit. About 45 children and parents attended.

For the upcoming showing of *The Good Dinosaur* on Friday, March 11, Bridget Hartman and Lorraine Rendleman will run the event.

- UN Peacekeepers Movie and Discussion – The second Movie Night for Grown-Ups this year, arranged for Friday, March 4, at 7 PM, will feature the hour-long movie *The United Nations: Last Station Before Hell* about the work of the UN Peacekeepers to be followed by a talk by Town resident Lise Morje Howard, who served as an academic advisor on the film. The event will include wine and desserts. Aki Peritz, Bob Lyford, Wicca Davidson, Julie Stanish, and Lorraine Rendleman volunteered to help.

- Soup's On! – Wicca Davidson is coordinating the Committee's first soup challenge on Sunday, March 13. Additional chefs, including teens and younger, will be sought. Wicca has secured two judges (Aviva Goldfarb, CEO of the Six O'Clock Scramble, and Donna Henry, Chef and Owner of Soup Up) who will bring prizes. Attendees will also select the "People's Choice" prize. Helping Wicca will be Bridget Hartman and Ann Wild.
- Spring Festival at the Lawton Center – Bridget Hartman reported on this Saturday, April 30, event, to run from Noon–4 PM at the Lawton Center. The BCC Jazz Combo will perform, two of the three food trucks are already on board, and there will be activities for children, including two moon bounces. The estate of recently deceased resident and artist, Anne Herring, will display and sell six of her large panels in the Town Hall. The proceeds will go to the YMCA Summer Camps to underwrite attendance for children whose families are unable to afford the fees. Art activities will also be available in the Town Hall.
- Progressive Dinner – We will announce in the Town Crier that we need dinner and dessert chefs, dinner and dessert hosts, as well as attendees for the Progressive Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, May 7. We will add this upcoming event to the *Forecast* as well as on all subsequent "Stay Tuned" Flyers. In addition, we will announce this coming event at other events.
- 2018 Town Centennial Committee – The Committee's earlier request to our liaison to ask the Town Council to approve the formation of a Town Centennial Subcommittee for organizing projects and events for upcoming Centennial has not gone forward. Wicca will follow up with the liaison.

Old Business—Communications:

- Communication Subcommittees Reports – The two subcommittees that have been formed as follow-up to our January discussion on communications—Analyzing and Prioritizing Communications (Kathie Legg, Julie Stanish, Loretta Sevier, Barbara Rose, and Chris Files) and Welcome Package (Bridget Hartman, Bob Lyford, Ann Wild, Kathie Legg, Jean Carlson, Barbara Rose, Wicca Davidson, and Lorraine Rendleman)—have both not yet met, but will report back at the April meeting.
- Surveys at Events – Surveys now collected at Town events are giving us some good comments and suggestions. We will add space for e-mails for residents to sign up for the Town Crier and also add the Town logo (B/W) to make survey look more polished.

New Business—Events:

- Concerts – The Lulu's Fate concert is planned for Friday, April 8. Julie Stanish agreed to check the availability of the Rockville Concert Band for a summer date so we can repeat the popular band and food truck event of last summer.
- Movie Night for Grown Ups – The Committee decided to show *A Ballerina's Tale*, a 2015 film about Misty Copeland, the first African-American prima ballerina to become the principal dancer of any ballet company in the world, on Friday, April 1, at 7:30 PM. Wine and other goodies will

be served. Volunteers include Loretta Sevier, Julie Stanish, Kathie Legg, Wicca Davidson, Jean Carlson, and Lorraine Rendleman.

- Town-Wide Yard Sale – Town resident Cathy Wolf suggested that the Committee sponsor a town-wide yard sale on Saturday, April 9 (Sunday, April 10, as rain date), the week before Trash and Treasures. The pros and cons of this proposal were discussed at the meeting with follow-up e-mails among those who attended the meeting. The Committee ultimately decided that this event would create problems of increased traffic and cluttered streets a week before Trash and Treasures. The Committee also did not see this as a community building event, such as a garden tour or concert. Wicca Davidson then conferred with Todd Hoffman about the proposed event. He noted that because of safety and liability, the Town/Committee should not sponsor this event. Residents Cathy Wolf and Gail Parks then decided to coordinate the event themselves independent of the Committee.
- 4th of July – Since Aki Peritz, past coordinator of this event, was not present, this item was not discussed.
- Discussion and Desserts – Town resident Susan Goodman, who teaches genealogy, will present on that topic in the fall (date to determined).
- Play Dates in the Park – Ann Wild recommended that the previously popular play dates for young children at the Leland Center playground be restarted. Kathie Legg volunteered to spearhead one on Saturday, June 11. Erin Kopelamn will assist.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Trocchio