

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

1 December 2021

7:00 PM – via Zoom

Sign-In Email committees@townofchevy Chase.org

Note: Residents are welcome to attend all Committee meetings.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. via Zoom.
- Members present: Amanda Klovers, Quynh Tran, Anne Patterson, Cathy Wolf, Julie Stanish, Marjorie Shaw, Maryanne Courtney, Barbara Rose, Tambra Leonard
- Town Liason: Irene Lane
- 11/3/21 Meeting Minutes approved & accepted. There were no public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

- Events/Community Service
 - Book Club – The last Book Club meeting (Nov. 1) was discussed at the last CRC meeting.
 - Discussed Coffee Meet-Up event, held on November 7.
 - 20 to 30 people attended, lots of positive feedback after event; decided to repeat event in January or February.
 - Discussed changes for future: need less food, make sure someone has alarm code, possibly add background music; better publicity, putting up signs.
 - Discussed Movie Night – Minari, held on November 12.
 - 27 people RSVP'd, but only 11 attended.
 - Discussed better ways to arrange snacks - there was lots of food, but not much wine, maybe snacks/wine should be ordered in advance.
 - Discussed issues relating to kitchen, in need of repairs/cleaning/functioning icemaker/extra tablecloths
 - Discussed Town Teens meet-up.
 - The Town's teen list is being updated.
 - Using a Google Form to update the list.
 - You need an account on the Town's website to access the teen list.
 - Consider creating seasonal lists (teens willing to shovel snow in winter, or rake leaves in fall, etc.)
 - Should the CRC be in charge of updating the teen list going forward? Yes (for now)
 - Teens are running a fundraiser for Montgomery County Family Justice Center. They're trying to raise money to help other teenagers.
 - The teens are searching for a nonprofit to partner with, to apply for the Town's Recovery Act funds (under the America Rescue Plan Act, ARPA). They are looking for a nonprofit focused on mental health.
 - Perhaps they could put together resources for families in the Town, especially for kids/teenagers who need mental health help.

NEW BUSINESS

Events/Community Service

- December Events on Schedule
 - Book Club – will meet December 6 (Marjorie, Maryanne, Cathy, Julie)
 - Discussion & Desserts with Rachel Vogelstein – December 9. It will be via Zoom. (Barbara)
 - We're checking with Rachel to see if the session can be recorded.
 - Holiday Singalong - December 19 (Julia)
 - Plan is to meet at the Town Hall. Walk around for an hour to an hour and a half, then return to the Town Hall. Serve warm drinks and cookies.
 - Winter Coat Drive (Marjorie)
 - Lots of good coats have been donated.
 - Holiday Gift Drive (Cathy, Quynh)
 - It's going well, but we haven't reached the sum we reached last year. We've raised \$3,000 to \$3,500 so far this year.
- Potential January Events
 - Arts and poetry compilation (Irene)
 - Submission deadline previously was extended to the end of December. So far only one person has submitted art.
 - We considered extending the deadline again.
 - Consider calling Wonders daycare, and/or Chevy Chase Elementary School, to see if they're interested in participating
 - MLK Day? Children's Art Activity with Bridget Hartman (Anne)
 - Possibly do scavenger hunt that occurs in a day or can span a week. Neighbors can volunteer to be a stop along a map and provide items for kids to collect along the map.
 - Cyber Safety Classes for Seniors and Parents (Quynh)
 - Program on Sponsorship Circles for Afghan Allies (Barbara to check with St. John's Episcopal)
 - Group of refugees w/ health challenges are staying at Hyatt. St. Johns is trying to see how we can help
 - Don't have to be member of St. John's to get involved; looking into who the point person is at St. John's so Town neighbors who want to help can reach out accordingly. Will promote opportunity on Listserv w/ contact info for St. John contact.
 - Coffee Meet-Up
 - If we're light in activities for Jan, we can put on another coffee meet up. Plan for indoors for now; can pivot for outside if needed and combine w/ playground meet up.
- Brainstorming Discussion January, February and beyond, including
 - Cherry Blossom themed Spring Fest (Anne)
 - April 3rd 1-4 pm (pending date confirmation from Town office)
 - Food trucks (Poke bowl, Hardy's BBQ), Kid activities (Origami as a craft), Band (cover band, jazz band)
 - Permit would be pursued for entire parking lot; need to confirm what takes priority if there's a conflict over dates for TOCC event or County event.

- Candidates Forum (MC County Council) (Julia, others?)
 - Hold for Jan meeting when Julia can join.
- Spring Tree event (Volunteer?)
 - In addition to encouraging town to participate in free canopy tree planting, opportunity exists to educate neighbors of tree life cycle where old trees are now dying – hence importance of planting new trees. Chance to reach out to Climate & Environment Committee.
- 5 K run (Peter)
 - Hold for Jan meeting when Peter can join.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting ended 8:34 pm
- Cathy and Barbara moved to adjourn

Next Meeting: January 5, 2022