



Labor Day Parade Advisory Board Minutes of Special Meeting April 6, 2020

Board Members present: Art Milton, Edna Sowards, Bill Sowards, Grace Shirk, Patricia Vincent, Kaye Whitley, Vicki Hess, and Mary Chappell

Board Members absent:

City Staff present:

The Special Meeting to plan the 36th annual Rock Island Labor Day parade was held via Zoom and started at 12:05 p.m.

I. Introductions

Following a few introductions, board members discussed the new challenge of meeting remotely. M. Chappell explained that this meeting would be considered a special meeting as official meeting dates for Advisory Board meetings had not been published in advance. A calendar of meeting dates was established.

2. Additions to the Agenda

A motion was made by A. Milton and seconded by G. Shirk to add the discussion of the 2020 theme to the agenda under #5 on the agenda, Misc. Items of Concern. Motion passed with no objections.

3. Treasurer's Report

M. Chappell noted that the budget for the 2020 parade is \$17,500, the same as in previous years. Based on an October email from L. Mohr, the total spent in 2019 was \$18,395.

4. Discussion of the 2019 Parade

M. Chappell noted that the final entry count was 143 entries – 186 units. This number is based on adding together the actual entry forms received, adding council and citizens of the year, and the different schools that participated. The promotion schedules and musical groups were reviewed. Members liked the new award program. The new shirts and stickers were also well received.

Looking ahead to the 2020 event, member discussed the possible impact of the COVID-19 virus situation and its possible impact on the event. M. Chappell relayed that L. Mohr had confirmed that at this time, no decision had been made by city officials to cancel the event. Decision was made to move forward and follow the same promotional mailing schedule with a few modifications. A save the date post card mailing will be added and sent ASAP to promote the event and theme. In addition, a mailing to bands in the region would be sent. First mailing to past participants will be sent in May. A follow-up past card will be sent in late July to remind participants of the parade entry deadline.

5. Misc. Items of Concern

The discussion of the 2020 parade theme was held. The theme: ***Joy to the World! Here and Everywhere!*** was selected. Members hope that participants will develop an entry based on what brings them joy in our community, or that they did for joy while on shutdown, or what brings them joy personally. A motion was made by G. Shirk and seconded by B. Sowards to accept the theme as presented. Motion passed with no objections.

6. Public Comments

No one from the public was present.

7. Adjournment

With nothing further to discuss a motion was made by A. Milton and seconded by K. Whitley to adjourn. Motions passed with no objections. Meeting ended at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Chappell