



Labor Day Parade Advisory Board Meeting Minutes June 14, 2021

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

City Staff present:

Absent: Kathy Garrison and Linda Mohr

The third meeting to plan the 37th annual Rock Island Labor Day parade started at 12:08 p.m. and was held in person at the South Rock Island Township Office Building.

1. Introductions

M. Chappell thanked everyone for coming and noted that it was good to be together in person!

2. Additions to the Agenda

A motion was made by A. Milton and seconded by G. Shirk to add the topic of new shirts under #5 on the agenda. The motion passed with no objections.

3. Approval of May 2021 Minutes

A motion was made by B. Sowards and seconded by E. Sowards to approve the May 2021 minutes as presented. The motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing new to report.

5. Discussion of 2021 Parade

First item to review was the latest information on COVID-19. With state restrictions to be lifted - we can move forward with planning the event. There was discussion that this year should be considered as the 37th annual event – as last year's event was cancelled. From this point forward, the parade will be considered as the 37th annual.

The promotional schedule for the parade was reviewed. M. Chappell noted that before she left town, L. Mohr confirmed that the first mailing to past participants would be sent out next week. Based on the schedule a Press Release will be sent and the registration information will be placed on the City's website.

L. Mohr did confirm that five band registrations had been received. Those bands were highlighted on the second page. Members were happy with such an early response! M. Chappell shared that the quote for the WIU Band buses came in at \$1,400 per bus. Advisory Board members were reminded to look for "attractions" to add to the line-up. A suggestions was made to ask local health care workers or staff from the County Health Department to be in the parade and placed in the Heroes Section.

A. Milton reported that the construction at Washington school should be completed by parade day. Of interest, is whether the side streets will be in good condition to march on. He will check with superintendent and report back next month.

M. Chappell discussed dedicating this year's parade to Donna and Clyde Schoeck. Both were involved with the parade from the beginning for about 15 years. Donna was an original member of the Labor Day Parade Advisory Board. Clyde Schoeck passed away in summer of 2019 and Donna passed in May 2021. All agreed to dedicate the parade to the Schoecks. Contact will be made with their family members regarding participation.

A. Milton discussed ordering new shirts. He will review inventory and bring information and ideas to the next meeting.

6. Misc. Items of Concern

B. Sowards noted that with RICAB no longer in business, we will need to secure an organization for post parade clean-up. Members discussed a few options and will review ideas at the next meeting.

7. Public Comments

No one from the public attended the meeting.

8. Adjournment

With nothing further to discuss, a motion was made by P. Vincent and seconded by G. Shirk to adjourn. Motions passed with no objections. Meeting ended at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Chappell