



## Labor Day Parade Advisory Board Meeting Minutes July 12, 2021

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

**City Staff present:** Nathan Parch

**Absent:** Art Milton and Kathy Garrison

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The fourth meeting to plan the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Rock Island Labor Day parade started at 12:07 p.m. and was held in person at the South Rock Island Township Office Building.

### 1. Introductions

M. Chappell thanked everyone for coming. Mr. Nathan Parch, the new city liaison for the parade, was present. Advisory Board members took a moment to introduce themselves to Mr. Parch and share their history with the Labor Day Parade. Mr. Parch is the new Economic Development Director for the City of Rock Island. He noted that Cara Ryckeghem will also be involved in supporting the event. Ms. Ryckeghem will process entries, manage payments, and provide overall event support.

### 2. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of June 14, 2021, Minutes

A motion was made by B. Sowards and seconded by K. Whitley to approve the June 14, 2021, minutes as presented. The motion passed.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

N. Parch handed out an *Expenditure Statement by Fund* report that offered detail on the Labor Day Parade fund. He confirmed the budget for this year's event is \$17,500. The balance for entry fees received to date totaled \$120.00, and the SRI Township Board had paid \$200.00 toward the Metrostepper sponsorship fee. A motion was made by G. Shirk and seconded by P. Vincent to approve the report as presented. The motion passed.

### 5. Entries received to Date

The latest list of entries was reviewed. Total to date is 24, which included the bands entries. Members took a moment to discuss the various entries. M. Chappell confirmed that sometimes a non-profit entry or a city department may not pay the entry fee.

### 6. Discussion of 2021 Parade

M. Chappell shared a report provided by A. Milton. The report mentioned a review is underway of the 2019 Police Order to develop the 2021 version. He has asked the Streets department to patch and/or fill holes in various locations, mainly around WJHS. He is working with the RI School District on the use of facilities. He noted that the renovations at Washington JHS will not impact the use of the facility on parade day. However, the renovations underway at RIHS may impact how the WIU Band enters the building for lunch following the parade.

Board members reviewed organizations to contact to provide clean-up following the parade. Also discussed was the idea of honoring local healthcare heroes. K. Whitley will check into the availability of honoring health care workers and staff from the County Health Department. G. Shirk will pursue a new All – American Athlete to be in the parade.

There was considerable discussion regarding the Citizen of the Year contest. N. Parch will check into status and report back to board members when there is an update to share.

#### **6. Misc. Items of Concern**

M. Chappell asked members to be on the lookout for convertible cars to use in the parade.

#### **7. Public Comments**

No one from the public attended the meeting.

#### **8. Adjournment**

With nothing further to discuss, a motion was made by K. Whitley and seconded by G. Shirk to adjourn. Motions passed with no objections. Meeting ended at 1:04 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted by Mary Chappell