

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION:	VMA Office and Zoom
DATE:	10/10/2023
COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	Keith Allen, Phillip Hurst, Paul McGowan, Yasmina Mudarres,
OTHER ATTENDEES:	Village Council Liaison Susan Fattig and Village Manager Michael Sillman, residents Matt Medvene and Naomi Naierman
TIME:	7:30 P.M.

I. 7:30pm Call to order: Susan

II. Elect a Committee Chair

Upon motions duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was resolved that Keith will act as Committee Chair and Yasmina will act as Committee Secretary.

III. Public Comments

The Chair shared that the Anti-Semitism Task Force is organizing a get-together at La Ferme to bring people together in December and encourages a resident on the phone to attend the Halloween event.

IV. Prepare for the Halloween event on October 29

Michael provided a progress update:

1. The food truck that we booked last year (Roaming Roster) is booked.
2. A permit has been obtained from the Park Service.
3. Keith is reaching out to the Ice-Cream truck, Good Humor.
4. Keith has been in touch with the Fire Chief to coordinate Fire Trucks
5. We can book DJ Josh Goldman again.
6. VMA staff have verified that A Grand Event is available if we want to book tents, tables, and chairs.
7. We can book face painting again.

The Committee agreed to use the same vendors and DJ and asked Michael to ensure that:

- tents, tables and chairs are delivered on the day of the event and set up on the grass in the park.
- the DJ brings a microphone for announcements.
- food trucks park in legal parking spots.
- The ice cream truck only distributes ice cream bars to avoid long lines.
- purchase supplementary pizza/plates/napkins, food service gloves.
- purchase about 100 small pumpkins (check with Katie Howard on the amount) to be distributed to children at the end of the parade.

Phil proposed prolonging the parade route. The Committee agreed to have it start on Turner Lane, continue towards Brookville Road, take a left onto Shepherd and finish at the Shepherd St tennis court, by the park.

Keith will ask the Fire Chief to limit the number of vehicles in attendance because Turner Lane is narrow.

Michael will send an update to the Committee by the end of the week.

V. Community engagement survey

The Committee asked Michael to share the results of the past VMA survey relating to Village events and agreed to discuss them at the next meeting.

Naomi informed the Committee that the Anti-Semitism Task Force is interested in a survey too and would like to coordinate on it. Paul expressed concern that the Community Engagement Committee's survey would proceed slowly and did not want to delay the work of the Anti-Semitism Task Force.

The Committee decided to ask the community to share feedback on the Halloween event and other events using post-its on a table or wall. Michael will coordinate with the committee to purchase supplies.

VI. Street captain engagement

Paul is the Block Captain liaison. Some block captains have dropped out and new Captains need to be recruited. Paul offered share a write up about the Block Captain role with the Committee. He asked Michael and Susan if Block Captains could be recognized at the annual VMA Volunteer Party. Yasmina asked if Block Captains could collect contact information for new neighbors and suggested adding a QR code for a Google form to the back of the directory. Michael shared a sample of the Welcome bag that Block Captains currently gift to new residents.

VII. Block parties

The Committee asked Michael to put a note in the newsletter to encourage block parties. Paul will draft a message for the newsletter.

VIII. Build a schedule for all events for FY24

Regular events include the October Halloween event, the party at La Ferme in March, the VMA election and sidewalk celebration in May, the 4th July event, and the two late summer movie nights.

The Committee noted that there are no VMA events taking place between the October Halloween event and the celebration at La Ferme in March. The Committee discussed a proposal for a winter lantern walk. VMA residents would be asked to host a table on their street with refreshments for neighbors. VMA could supply lanterns, tables and paper plates/cups. The Committee agreed to include the new event in the schedule.

IX. Public comments

None

8:30 pm the meeting is adjourned.