

## **Durand Improvement Group Meeting Minutes – January 30, 2023**

Members present: Josie Perkovich, LeAnna Bender, Mike Norby, Tanya Smeltzer, Jordin McMahon, Alex Holmes, Val Cataract  
Visitors present: Wendy Brantner

Meeting called to order – 6:10 PM

### **Committee Reports:**

**Budget:** Check with businesses for sponsorship – should the membership fees be increased for businesses and then add additional benefits for the higher level? At quarterly meeting after FunFest, check on status of finances. Tax Forms – Need to get Josette’s name off and the new president on it.

**Memberships:** Add incentives for businesses at different sponsorship levels – hyperlinks to company websites, etc. Check on if clubs can be members. These are per calendar year; need to set a proper due date so it’s known that these end at the end of the year. Start advertising for membership in October.

**Music in the Park:** Do 50/50 for regular fundraising instead of for the bandshell at one of these. Jordin has received several emails from bands who have expressed interest in participating. Since we have this booked already for this year, Jordin will keep contact info for future years. Expand invites to other local establishments and rename the Taste of Durand? Give first choices to Durand businesses but let them know that this is a first come, first serve.

**Fundraising:** Need at least one big fundraiser for the year and fundraising events at our other events (donation jars, silent auctions, golf outing, etc). Consider partnering with other groups (Sportsman Club, Lions Club, etc). Target fundraising to specific groups that include raffles and food – such as a poker run throughout the county (could start and host at Rec Hall and charge \$25 per bike and \$10 per rider). Do a bingo event with prizes donated from businesses and host it at the Masonic Lodge. For the agricultural side, can we do something specific for this – partner with the donkey basketball? Amber (Bodhi’s) is willing to assist with us setting up for a golf tournament. Diane could also give guidance; we would be doing the legwork. Mike can contact Diane, and Val will contact Amber to get input from both. Jordin will contact the golf course to get a date for us. LeAnna will talk to Matt Roesler about coming to discuss other fundraising ideas.

**Business Expo:** Dates are set and lodge is booked. Sunny Skies CBD, NTec, and SFB have signed up. DIG members are free and non-members are \$20. March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7PM; open at 4PM for setting up. Tables will be provided. Sign-up is available online.

**DIG Scholarships:** Val got an e-mail regarding this; we need to pay out the last winner.

### **Old business:**

**Dog Park:** Slowly moving forward. Received \$20,000 from Purina for this project. Liability insurance and waste removal are two items that will need to be addressed. LeAnna has been talking to Scott about how the insurance would work with the city.

**Funfest:** Has additional benefits based on their sponsorship level – logo on website, poster, radio ads, etc. We could do similarly for businesses for DIG memberships. Doing another golf tournament for the bandshell; last year the golf course did all of the work for this. This year they donated \$500 to sponsor the event, and FunFest will be doing the preparations. Fireworks will be done for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Bauer Built is donating \$7,500 to cover Chris Kroeze. Kwik Trip is donating \$2,200 for kids’ activities (face painting, train rides, clown, and caricatures).

**Volunteers:** Check with other schools (Assumption Catholic) about students volunteering.

**City Flowers:** Can we donate to local groups to get volunteers to assist in watering?

**Garage Sales:** Jessica will no longer be doing this. Would be the original weekend if we do it (April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>), but with the other garage sales going on the weekend before and after, it doesn’t seem practical to continue to do it. Can we do a simple food stand or pancake feed the weekend of one of the other sales while more people are going through town.

### **New Business:**

Slate has been voted on and approved by all.

Tin Can continues to express interest in selling at Music in the Park, but everything we do must be locally based per the bylaws. Local being defined as Pepin County and 5 mi radius of the county border; need an amendment to the bylaws to ensure this is established.

Bylaws – review and revise these at the next board meeting. Set guidelines regarding membership if none are in place. Possibly change the date for the meeting to occur during the day on a weekend.

Next general meeting: February 13, 2023  
Meeting adjourned: 7:55 PM

Next Board meeting: May 8, 2023