

## **Durand Improvement Group Meeting Minutes – October 09, 2023**

Members present: Mike Norby, Tanya Smeltzer, Wendy Brantner, Valerene Cataract

Meeting called to order – 6:14 PM

Approval of financial: Motion made by Tanya, seconded by Wendy

Approval of minutes: Motion made by Val, seconded by Wendy

### **Committee Reports:**

**Funfest:** Parking lot on Main Street can be used for next year, but it has been sold, so it will no longer be available in the future. Letters will be hand delivered to all businesses in town to invite them to the November meeting to discuss the movement of FunFest in the future. In dire need of volunteers - this will be discussed as well. Discussion will include the possibility of moving to Tarrant Park. City Council, Scott R, and Deb (Courier Wedge) will be invited as well to discuss the future of FunFest and get something out there in the public sphere. FunFest may need to no longer be a subcommittee and be combined with the primary DIG meetings due to issues with lack of volunteers. Various organizations are asked to volunteer but there are always time slots that aren't filled. If no volunteers can be found, FunFest may no longer be happening.

**Trunk or Treat:** Christina has the trophy for us and has been advertising the event. Mike would like to see this get posted in other Facebook groups for what's happening around the area; it has been shared in the group for what's happening around Menomonie. We need to get candy. Mike suggested an allowance of \$300 for candy and all present approved. We can use the canopy again that we used last year. Wendy brought the Willy Wonka decorations for us to use.

**Dazzle Day:** Still need to order outfits for Santa and Mrs. Claus. Mike will do some research to get ideas on options and cost for costumes. Can we get a room for them to change in at the school? They will need to be at the high school from 11 AM – 1 PM. For Ho-Ho-Ho, they can come in the back door where the vendors come in.

Kidpalooza - The Dairy Promotion Council will pay for the milk; they will reimburse us for what we get. We will get gallons of milk and Wendy can provide us with cups to use. Need a template for the letters to Santa. Val suggested getting some of the letters put into the Wedge, so this is something we will investigate. Need to find out what we still have for the kids – coloring sheets, crafts, etc. and get more as needed. Games – tic-tac-toe, bag toss, etc.

Parade themes – Reviewed a list of themes and found two that stood out: Old Fashioned Christmas and Dreaming of a White Christmas. Val and Wendy both voted for Old Fashioned Christmas and Mike and Tanya agreed. We still need to select a Grand Marshall. Mike will put a google form out there for community members to nominate people; qualifications will include their service to the community. We still need to get the letter and parade registration finalized; Mike will get these finished up this week.

Discussed changing the date of Dazzle Day in the future due to conflicts with Thanksgiving for the DIG members. Some members will no longer be able to assist in future years with the current date. We are on the calendar for using the Masonic Lodge, so this will be honored. We can decorate on Friday.

### **Old Business:**

Flowers – Can get 25 flower baskets from Olson's (\$1,200), as this is all they have space for next year. Mike suggested seeing if we can get some from other green houses to fill in and get two on each pole, and all attendees agree. Fifty baskets can fit on main street and six can be set down by the Veteran's Memorial. We will need another 31 from another greenhouse. It will be approximately \$2,690 in total for all flowers plus another \$2,400 for watering. Val will get a basket for Wendy to take to the Amish greenhouse.

### **New Business:**

Revision of DIG By-Laws: Last revised January 10, 2017. They need to be updated to get current again. Mike suggested getting a date on the calendar for the board to meet and do this. Need to meet before January for a board meeting and this will be part of it. Mike has updated the timeline of events and provided a copy of the by-laws, amendment, and conflict of interest policies for all members to review. Tentative date is Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Addition of new board member: Motion made by Mike to add Wendy Brantner to the board, seconded by Val. Unable to meet quorum. Will revisit at November meeting.

Next general meeting: November 13, 2023

Meeting adjourned: 7:34 PM