

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
Celtic Fest Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

4 pm – Regan Room – Village Hall – Also virtually via GoToMeeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jenn at approximately 4:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Mayor Bill McLeod
Joane McLeod
Craig Kuehne
Linda Scheck
Jenn Djordjevic
Doris Harner
Ben Gibbs
Yousuf Ahmed

Absent

Mayor Chris Nelson

Staff Liaison

Patrick Seger

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

A motion to approve the June 7, 2023 minutes was made by Mayor and seconded by Linda and all commission members were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT-

No public in attendance

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Linda reported to the commission that all of the animal acts that were discussed are confirmed as all the paperwork is in and she would like to animals to be underneath the Kata tents. Linda also indicated that Meze Mediterraneo restaurant is planning on attending and will provide meatballs as in the past. Windy City Bulls will also be attending and will use their own set up that day.

Linda also suggested that the commission include Bingo as an activity year and Ben shared some negative past experience with having Bingo and did not feel that it would be a good fit at this year's Celtic fest.

Linda reported that she was in contact with Lisa Notarnicola, Village leader of the explorer cadet program and indicated that a total of 10 cadets will be participating at this year's event.

Jenn asked Linda to share the activity vendors that will be attending and Linda mentioned the Giant Slide, Euro Bungi, trackless train, Axe throwing trailer. Jenn asked Patrick if any reports on the entertainment and Patrick indicated that Rebecca McCarthy Irish Dancers are the final group to provide paperwork and all the entertainment is set as discussed at the last meeting. Patrick also shared that he plans to communicate with Dave Unger the Celtic Fest Sound Engineer to coordinate with the entertainment scheduled for the Brew Garden stage what sound needs the entertainers will need. Kayla from the Now Area staff will be the contact for Dave Unger regarding set up of his sound system.

Patrick also indicated that the planned dance groups are aware that they will be performing at a different stage than the Brew Garden stage and that he will let them know their stage will be under the large activity tent. Also, they will be performing after Ken Dix band "They Might Be Irish" completes their set at the Brew Garden stage and before Whiskey Mick begins to play upon setting up at the Brew Garden stage. The plan is that the audience may move to watch the dancers during this time of take down and set up of equipment in the brew garden which should work out well. It was also discussed that the dancers will be provided a place to change within the area and would enter at the west entrance and exit from the west entrance of the Area and walk over to the stage when ready to perform. Patrick to contact the dance groups to communicate the plan.

Ben reported that there will be a very large tent for the dancers and vendors. PW will provide a generator. Ben asked Kala to coordinate moving the PA system from the Hide Away stage to the new stage in tent so the dancers have a P.A. Ben asked Patrick to confirm with the dance groups how they plan to provide music. Patrick indicated that they generally have a I-Phone and are connected to P.A. via blue tooth or direct connection. Patrick to work with both the dance groups and Kayla to finalize music needs.

Ben said that the whiskey tasting event will be set up on individual tables for guests to sit down and taste the Whiskey and that will be plenty of room in the tent as it is very large. Ben said that PW will provide a generator for the large tent. Patrick asked if we still needed the generator that was included in the contract with the company providing the Giant Slide etc. Ben indicated that it is always good to have a backup generator or there may be a need for it so to make sure it is included.

Linda asked Ben how was the visit to the Highland Games was a couple of weeks ago and Ben indicated that it is a huge event. He believes their event is primarily geared toward athletics activities and pipe bands. He did feel that the space that they need is significant and it may be difficult to accommodate here in the future. He said that our Celtic Fest is really toward the music and family entertainment. He also felt, due to the size of their event, it was a very long walk from parking area to event space. Ben also said that their food was general carnival food with only a few Celtic themed foods which is different from our past events.

Yousuf reported out on what he is working on for the event and he indicated he is researching both Irish and Scottish based beers to have at the event as well as working on a Celtic food menu that will stand out.

Jenn mentioned she would like to see if the commission member can get t-shirts for the event. The commission liked the idea and Joane volunteered to look into potential T-shirt options.

Jenn asked Craig to provide a marketing up date and he indicated that the ads kicked off today on the Google ad platform when Celtic Fest or Shenanigans on the Green are googled. Also, the event has been out on social media for some time now including the Hideaway page, and Facebook page.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Jenn indicated that the next Celtic Fest meeting will be Tuesday August 1st, at 4:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Regan Room.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joane and seconded by Linda with all commission members in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.