



Wildwood Celebration Commission Minutes

Meeting Date:

- June 14, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

- Ashley Slauter
- Kirsten Schultz
- Karen Jehling
- Sharon Hutson
- Deborah Coleman
- Holly Schremp
- Council Liaison Joe Garritano
- Kristin Naeger, Staff Liaison

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Garritano called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and requested roll call be taken.

II. Roll Call

A roll call of members was conducted, and the following individuals were in attendance, both in-person and via the Zoom Webinar Platform:

Commission Members:

Ashley Slauter
Kirsten Schultz
Karen Jehling
Sharon Hutson
Deborah Coleman
Holly Schremp
Council Liaison Joe Garritano
Kristin Naeger, Staff Liaison

Absent Members Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Siebert, and Sergeant Donald Jacquin.

Other Officials & City Staff:

Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks
Stacy Chanski, Recreation Specialist
Officer Steve Deghelder

III. Nomination and Election of Co-Chair

Commissioner Slauter nominated herself as Co-Chair.

Motion was made by Commissioner Slauter, seconded by Commissioner Jehling, to elect Ashley Slauter as the Co-Chair of the Commission. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the May 11, 2023, Meeting of the Commission

Motion was made by Commissioner Hutson, seconded by Commissioner Slauter, to approve the meeting minutes of May 11, 2023. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Discussion of the 2023 Celebrate Wildwood Event

a. Selection of Subthemes for "This is My Wildwood"

Director Vujnich began the discussion regarding the subthemes listed in the Memorandum; Wildwood – City of Parks and Trails and Wildwood Wonders seemed to be the most popular; other portions of the event can have subthemes as well; City of Parks and Trails seemed to offer many of creative ideas for the parade golf carts, as each of them could be named a different trail or park.

Motion was made by Commissioner Slauter, seconded by Commissioner Schultz, to approve Wildwood – City of Parks and Trails as the parade subtheme. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano.

b. Parade Components for 2023/Grand Marshal

Discussion was started by Director Vujnich regarding the Grand Marshal; a suggestion might be to acknowledge the Hometown Heroes (9 individuals) as Grand Marshals; it was discussed further to invite the Hometown Hero and/or families of the heroes honored on the banners to be co-Grand Marshals. Staff will reach out to the Hometown Heroes honorees to see if they would be interested.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jehling, seconded by Commissioner Coleman, to approve the motion for the Hometown Heroes as Grand Marshals. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano.

c. Promotion and Advertising for 2023 Event

Director Vujnich discussed the upcoming meeting with West Newsmagazine to establish advertising for the event; they are in-kind sponsor and will have updates in July; the Gazette is in the works for the Fall issue; if any Commission Members would like to provide their input for the Gazette, it is welcomed. Director Vujnich will send the past articles to the Commission for input and editing suggestions. Staff is working on an agreement with Silver Tablet Marketing for social media placements; July's meeting will have a comprehensive update.

The 2022 Celebrate Wildwood scavenger hunt was very successful, so this year a proposed bingo/hunt using photographs from locations around Wildwood should even be more popular, given the format. An idea was presented to have the Wildwood History Book booth being a final bingo square. It was decided to try to include the Wildwood History Book in a square, rather than at a booth, as participants will come prepared with their bingo cards already punched. Director Vujnich discussed the Wildwood History Book and its final draft becoming available in time for Celebrate Wildwood and confirmed that a booth for the Historical Preservation Commission and the Wildwood Historical Society will be combined, along with an area selling the Wildwood History Book. The Commission will each receive a copy.

Motion was made by Commissioner Schremp, seconded by Commissioner Slauter, to approve the bingo card for the scavenger hunt. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano.

d. Update of Activities, Commitments, and Actions

Director Vujnich started the discussion mentioning the fireworks contract is being finalized; staff will use the directory for subdivision trustees to mail out sponsorship opportunity packets; however, not all subdivisions are included in it; and consultants/contractors to the City will also be sent packets. It was noted the City has not yet contacted Spectrum and is waiting for the right opportunity to approach them for sponsorship; Director Vujnich contacted Pond Athletic Association for follow up to profit sharing, but have not spoken yet; The Red and Black Brass Band has been secured for the parade; Officer Deghelder is exploring parade participation from Lafayette High School; Clancy's Irish Pub will be providing in-kind donation by setting up and maintaining a baby changing station and nursing tent; all students need to complete volunteer hours for school, so a volunteer article in the Gazette could promote those opportunities.

e. Other Considerations

VII. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Garritano is not available to attend.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Jehling, seconded by Commissioner Schremp, to adjourn the meeting. Having no further business to discuss, and hearing no objections, a voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Garritano. The meeting concluded at 6:51 p.m.