

RECREATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2014
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDEES: **Dave Gonyea, Ravi Sharma, Phil Savignano, Tizz Crowley, Sue Patneaude, Eric Audette and Tizz Crowley**

- I. Minutes Motion by Tizz Crowley to accept minutes with corrections. Seconded. All in favor.
- II. Ingersoll – Public Information Session - 8/20/14

The session was divided into to sections. First one will be for the general public. Items that come up during the discussion will be added to the list and prioritized. Colored dots will be used for voting by priority. The second hour will be for vendors/renters. Colored dots will be purchased. Refreshments will not be served. Water will be available.

Promotion for the meeting was done through Gleason Media with an interview with the city manager and Ravi Sharma. Tizz suggested putting it in L/A Alerts and the Twin City Times, with a reminder notice on Monday night with an E-Alert.

- III. Seniors Update

By-laws have been re-written. They have gone to Ravi for his action. Simplified and includes the mission statement. She would like to add the word “social” to the the mission statement. The by-laws were discussed at the retreat, at which time it was officially approved. The transition went smoothly. Reaction has been positive. There was objection to the prayer issue. That has since been resolved. Wording that is geared toward one denomination or another must be avoided. No one has complained.

- IV. Special Events

The committee has not met yet. The committee was tasked to research culture in Auburn and elsewhere. Tizz asked for clarification regarding Activities/Places/Events were some of the events she understood were to be looked at. She would like to expand to Lewiston and Monmouth. Discussion ensued about annual events and on-going activities. It was determined that the charge was for Special Events only.

Cultural Events:

August 16th - Third Annual Box Car Drive-In Movie Night – Children decorate boxes made into cars. Prizes are given. **“Despicable Me 2”** will be shown on the big screen at Upper Pettengill Field at about 8:00 p.m. Program will be held inside if it rains.

October 11th - First Annual Arts & Humanities Festival in Auburn

Dave suggested that the city refer those wishing to have a special event to the advisory board to get a recommendation from the advisory board to the council as to who gets that money and what they spend. There is a Special Event budget of \$20,000.00 for special events. It is unsure

who allocates these funds. Tizz will research how Lewiston does their allocations for special events.

Ravi stated that the lion's share of the money is spent on the Liberty Festival, the Balloon Festival and the Dempsey Challenge. The recreation events, to include Winter Festival, are paid for through sponsors that are solicited through the department.

Ravi reminded the board that Lost Valley may not be available for Winter Festival. Other plans/locations may have to be arranged.

He further explained that the city takes an amount of \$40,000.00 from the program accounts to be put back into the general fund. This money could be put back into the programs and special events to improve them.

V. Advisory Board Press Release

Dave feels that the advisory board should be trumpeted through the media to let the community know that the board exists. More promotion should be done to highlight the department with press releases about senior citizens events, Ingersoll re-purposing and the programs that are coming up.

Dave suggested that each board member send at 2 to 3 sentence bio to Sue Patneade and she will work with Ravi on how the press as to what events and programs that need to be promoted.

The mission statement was discussed. These have not gone before the council for approval. Each department seems to have its own mission statement. The council will be reviewing mission statements.

Tizz moved that the department mission statement be approved by the city manager and used on letterhead and all other media for recreation. Second by Phil Savignano. AIF

VI. Open

Phil asked who to go to for information on Mount Apatite Park. Ravi referred him to Denis D'Auteuil at Public Works. Phil stated that there was signage that borders on graffiti and he wanted to have it addressed. He was told to either email Denis D'Auteuil or go to the "Request It" tab on the website.

World Canadian Project – Approximately 50,000 people will go to the event to find family members. There is music, a parade with costumes, etc.

Dan Poisson stated that John Murphy Homes is putting in a pool near Marden's. They are looking for funding. He was asking if the city wanted to get involved.

VII. Adjournment