

St. Clair Shores Memorial Day Parade Committee
Minutes of the Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Zoom/Dial-in Meeting

Attendees: Vince Carr, Vice-Chair
Cheryl Furdos, Chair
Mary Beth Okray
Sarah Lanyon
Chuck Hall
Chuck Palermo

Kyle Nicholson
Greta Guest Rubello
David Rubello
Sal Rubino

Absent: Robert Muha

Jamie Victory, Advisory
Dennis Krasnicki, Advisory

Guests: Mary Kotowski
John Caron

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Cheryl Furdos. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Roll call was taken and the audience was asked if any guests were on the line; only John Caron. Mary Kotowski was initially on the call only to ensure all could be connected.

Mary Beth motions to excuse Robert Muha; Sal seconded. Motion unanimously passed.

Chairman's Report - Cheryl

Happy New Year to all. She did communicate with Kip to see if we would be able to hold the parade. He wants to proceed as though that will happen.

Cheryl advised Dave to not sign any contracts and don't pay any participant, so we don't place ourselves in an awkward position. Mary Beth suggested contacting Karla Anderson, regarding the Health Department's current forecast of the ability to hold a parade from a public health standpoint. Greta indicated she has a meeting tomorrow with Arnold Mondo on the FDA panel for the vaccine and who is also an U-M professor. She will ask him to weigh in.

Cheryl thinks we need to take it one day/meeting at a time. Dave has sent out invitations and has received some responses, with only one person indicating "no". It is a save the date type of invitation. There are concerns about participants who are over 70-80 who will not attend.

Chuck Palermo indicated that we definitely should not be paying any one for their appearance but also perhaps should not invite anyone who requires payment. Also, we should not do any fundraising (e.g., \$100 + Club), but concentrate on freebies. Sal indicates that something is better than nothing. Eddie Munster is planning to attend this year - Dave talked to him last

week. Chuck P has only 1 parade performance who we did prepay who has not yet refunded the money: the 15th Michigan Volunteer Infantry (\$200 fee).

We'll need to direction from City as to whether or not to have parade.

After the October meeting Cheryl contacted Gene Perye and he was thrilled he would again be the grand marshal.

Bills, Communications & Financial Report

No expenses to submit.

Question as to whether we have refunded any \$100 Club. Dave indicated that those who gave to the \$100 Club, one individual indicated to keep it until next parade.

Vito Remida and Tony Giglio indicated to use for next parade. The VAS security systems and Gregory and Shannon Widowski (The Shorewood Kiwanis); Cheryl returned all checks that were not deposited. Chuck has a couple entries where the checks were cashed. It was decided that given the uncertainty, we would not publish a parade book this year; consensus is to refund any book money from last year. Chuck P will issue check requests to have 7 individuals refunded.

Chuck P also has a line item for \$228 for spaghetti dinner tickets but he does not have any specific information on who purchased these 19 tickets. For those tickets purchased on-line, Greta advised those were immediately refunded. He has just a line item in total but no identifying names.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the teleconference meeting of October 7, 2020 were approved, with one correction – the time of adjournment was in error; correction made. Vince motioned to approve with the time change for adjournment; and Kyle seconded. Unanimously passed.

Chair Reports

Communications: Greta has nothing to report.

Participants: Dave sent first wave of invitations out. He talked with VFW in Lansing and they will send their commander. We do need to update the application. He also talked with Eddie Munster and he is still on retainer for next year's parade. It was also noted that this committee needs to continue to meet for continuity.

Logistics: Vince will wait to order porta potties and ribbons.

Fundraising: Mary Beth has nothing to report. Cheryl saw the Marchioris and Tony said they would not plan for one.

Chuck Hall the company that had the Sam the Eagle and he does not get any response. Company is in Ohio but their inventories come from China. He also advised that tonight's meeting will be his last due to health situations. He has served for ten years

Volunteers: Sarah Nothing to report.
Sal has nothing to report – he’s only just begun.
Kyle has nothing to add.

Old Business

Quotes for Flag Pole Purchase: Dave has put this out to bid. Should have by next meeting

New Business

Future Meetings/Parade Occurrence: Next meeting in two weeks and will most likely be virtual. As far as in person meetings, current information indicates that the Governor said she will look at data for the next few week and we will just have to play it by ear. Ditto for holding parade.

Greta asked if we needed to meet every other week – Cheryl thinks maybe once a month. Perhaps we should wait until after the governor’s announcement on the 15th. Chuck P indicates to keep virtual. Consensus is to meet in February 3 and skip the January 20 meeting/call.

Audience Participation: John Caron thanked Chuck Hall for all the years he has participated in the parade. Also decisions are all going to stem from the Governor’s directive. He feels our financial decisions have been prudent.

There being no other business, Chuck H motioned to adjourn; Vince seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Beth Okray