

Community Relations Committee Meeting

February 5, 2020

7:00 p.m. – Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Members Present: Wicca Davidson (Chair), Emily Helms Williams, Julie Stanish, Quynh Tran, Peter Ladengaard, Barbara Rose, Marjorie Rush

General Business

- The minutes of the December 2019 meeting were presented and approved by the Committee. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Julie and seconded by Peter. There were no January minutes as there was no meeting that month.
- There were no public comments.

Old Business

Events and Community Service:

- Family Movie Night – Emily reported on the January movie night, where we screened the Lego Movie. The event went smoothly. Approximately 50 people attended, and we had exactly the right amount of pizza. The group liked the movie.
- Movie Night for Grownups – Wicca and Barbara reported on the event, where we screened the Biggest Little Farm on January 10. The movie was great. About 60 people attended. The food was good, and we had the right amount. More than half of the attendees stayed for the discussion on sustainable gardening led by the Climate and Environment Committee held afterward.
- Holiday Gift Drive for Family Justice Center – Quynh will provide a write up on results for the Forecast by February 11. Quynh reported that we raised \$5,517.84, a 6% increase over the prior year. Donations included approximately 50 items for families. The director estimated that 100 children were assisted by the donations. The additional funds will be used for summer camp.
- Chili Dinner – The event is this Sunday, February 9, from 5:30-7:00. The event will be held at the Lawton Center Social Hall this year given the number of attendees. Approximately 120 RSVPs have been received so far. Wicca will send out a list for volunteer positions. We will not have an ice cream bar this year due to the lack of freezer space. The group discussed different dessert options and volunteer positions. Marjorie volunteered to handle the donations to Manna. The group discussed announcements, trash and compost, menu and items provided by Hard Times, and other event logistics. Quynh will provide a survey for the event. We aren't planning to provide an entertainer but have arranged for access to the gym.
- Tiki Event – Julie reported on her research and planning for the event, which will be held on Friday, February 21 at 8:00 p.m. The group brainstormed items and drinks, alcoholic and non-alcoholic, for the menu and discussed the need for ingredient labels. The group also discussed decorations and donations received from the House of Foong Lin. Julie, Marjorie, and Wicca volunteered for the event. We plan to promote the event at the Chili Dinner.
- Winter Outerwear Warm Clothing Drive – The drive for donations of new and gently used winter clothing is ongoing through the end of February. Marjorie will report the results after the drive is over.

Communications:

- No items were discussed, other than to note that Quynh had described the Survey Monkey consolidation at a prior meeting.

New Business

Events and Community Service:

- Family Movie Night – The next movie night is Friday, February 7, where we will show Paddington. Emily, Marjorie, and Barbara will staff the event. Emily will make the announcements.
- Family Event Night – March 6 – Emily reported that Mad Science will perform an interactive science show. Emily will provide Wicca with a description of the event for the Forecast. We need four volunteers for the event.
- Planning Discussion for Future Events – We traditionally do an art show in June. Wicca has discussed with Katie Vita and is planning to reach out to potential artists for the event. We will not hold an event that would conflict with the garden dedication in April. We could do a cooking event in March. The group brainstormed a contest versus recipe exchange, or possibly doing two events. Quynh volunteered to lead a recipe exchange, possibly focused on easy weeknight meals. The group brainstormed future speakers for Discussions and Desserts.

Communications:

- Town Survey – Following up on discussion at the last meeting, Wicca reported that she will bring the latest Town survey at a future meeting.

Other Business:

- Wicca informed the Committee that she will be leaving the Committee at the end of the Committee year (after the Fourth of July). Julia Bellinger has volunteered to co-chair with another member.
- The Committee discussed a suggestion about an event or forum for neighbors to meet and share their expertise and made the decision not to sponsor it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting, and Marjorie seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Helms Williams