

CommUnity Team

January 5th 2022

City Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present: Ron Harke, Berlin Boat Club; Tim Ludolph, Planning & Development; Carl Cartwright, Berlin Schools; Chris Kalupa- Berlin Public Library Sue Trampf- ABC Group and Lions Club, Jen Moen, Fortifi Bank.

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. by Tim Ludolph. Ron Harke made a motion to approve the October 6th minutes, Sue Trampf seconded the motion, which was carried by a voice vote.

Reports:

Sue Trampf reported that the ABC Group was still in the process of taking the park down through the next weekend. The trees are expected to be removed the following week. The Theme for next year's parade was selected, "A Storybook Christmas" and this was communicated with all parade participants from this year as Sue sent out personal thank-you cards to everyone informing them of this theme. The next event is planned for July 3rd with Musical Performers already selected; the sponsors and some other details remain to be decided. The year of 2021 was good for ABC group and they anticipate a strong 2022. The finding the soldiers event had default prizes for all participants as there were only three for both categories.

Jan Griedl provided an update by email: I don't have much new this month but hope to have some exciting things to report next month.

Timothy Ludolph reported that Berlin Community Development Corporation closed the second round of the Microenterprise Grant program on the 31st of December. These were submitted to USDA for review and hopeful payment roughly within the next month.

Ron Harke of the Berlin Boat Club sent the following report:

BBC REPORT;

BBC has No Meeting in December,

But Planning for Cub Events:

Open of the Lock a week before Memorial weekend,

Corn Roast 2022 on August 12 and 13th,

CLUB Events

January :

Election of Officers

February:

Commodore Ball in February,

July:

July 3 Lighted boat parade (ABC Event).

Club Meeting first Thursday of each month, Locations TBD (To Be Determined) email to Members

Berlin School District Superintendent Cartwright reported the School District had little new occurring other than the beginning of a new semester and likely cancellation of

events in the near future due to the Covid-19 Omicron Variant. There was a brief discussion of the Covid-19 testing protocols/capability.

There were no updates for the Boys and Girls Club.

Tim Ludolph reiterated there would be ribbon cuttings for the new business(es) downtown with a tentative date and time for Bay's Beards and Cuts on February 10th at Noon. Carl Cartwright urged utilization of Doodle Polls and more proactively reaching out to Downtown Businesses for greater participation in the ribbon cuttings. Jen Moen suggested mid-day ribbon cutting times would be better for those who have to commute to participate.

Chris Kalupa mentioned the Historic Society was scheduled to have their annual meeting at the library's upstairs meeting room, Wednesday January 12th at 6:30 PM.

There was no update for the GLCVB.

Chris Kalupa reported that the Library newsletter was distributed and contained much of what would have been announced. The highlight was the winter reads program was ongoing and an emphasis for the month of January. There was also material for registration for Friends of the Library distributed.

Sue Trampf reported that the Lions Club had hosted a Scholarship Dinner the previous night January 4th where four scholarships were distributed. Vision Screening was ongoing, uncertainly due to Covid, but had reached 733 students so far and would be branching out to Omro. There had been some very positive press and response by All Saints Catholic. The cheese sale had been an unprecedented success selling out on December 18th, every last block of 2200 pounds. Ron Harke mentioned a major reason for this success was the choosing of Walmart as a site to sell. Coupon books remain available with about half available of the original 300 at \$20 each.

Local Media- There was no-one present to report. The group urged making sure someone from the paper be present.

Rebecca Bays provided an update by email: The only update that I have is that as of yesterday, the Senior Center has reissued masks for everyone, regardless of vaccination status. At this point, we are still a go for reopening the Center on January 31st. Let me know if you have any questions.

For old business Ron Harke mentioned the downtown businesses should be actively engaged with for both these Community Team meetings and Ribbon Cuttings. Food for thought, this group had patronized some of the multiple food and beverage serving establishments in the past and ought to consider doing so into the future. Ensuring the mailing list, with minutes distributed to all officials and business groups, would be optimal for effective communication.

For New Business the group discussed reviewing the purpose so the CommUNITY Team is effective in accomplishing the goals for which it was established. Staff was encouraged

to reach out to realtors to have them on the same page in promoting Berlin as a potential place to do business.

Next meeting will be February 2nd at 8 AM. The group discussed keeping the meeting place at council chambers for the next few, so any potential guests could easily find the location. There was inconclusive discussion of

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron Harke 8:46 a.m. by and seconded Jen Moen. The motion carried by an affirmative voice vote.

Tim Ludolph