

CommUnity Team

October 5th 2022

Riverside Coffee

Members Present: Bobbie Erdmann- City of Berlin; Sue Trampf- ABC Group and Lions; Emmett Durtschi- Berlin Area School District, Rebecca Bays- City of Berlin, Barry Abbott- Downtown Property Owner and Berlin Boat Club, David Stone- Edward Jones, Karen Winkel-Dishong Advocap, Jan Griedl- Advocap and Ashley Bartol- Boys and Girls Club

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 a.m. by Tim Ludolph. Rebecca Bays made a motion to approve the September 7th minutes with the correction made to have her not marked as there in the end and Ashley Bartol seconded the motion, which was carried by a voice vote.

Reports:

Sue Trampf reported the ABC Group's progressing to put on the annual Lighting of the Park and Christmas Parade event. They have presented the posters detailing the schedule of a 4 PM start, 5 PM lighting of the trees at Nathan Strong Park, 6PM Santa is to be at the parade and 6:30 PM the parade begins. There are to be two categories including Theda Care Lighted trees and commercially sponsored ones. Farmers and Merchants Bank is a general sponsor and Fortifi is sponsoring the carriage and horse ride. By October 26th the trees will be cut and the 29th they will be staked and tagged. Volunteers are still needed and the group is open to High School Community Service. She also briefly described the Bootify Berlin committee's namesake event. Discussion took place for the utilization of technologies and what miscellaneous activities people would do at this event.

Jan Griedl introduced herself as well as Karen Winkel-Dishong to the CommUnity Team and discussed their organizational programming as well as an explanation of the Elf Extravaganza event coming up. This led to additional discussion of housing and community development issues.

David Stone reported an update on the Economy and Market outlook, specifically how unusual the current events are. He had urged people to be calm and patient as unusual times tend to regulate given enough time.

Timothy Ludolph reported that Berlin Community Development Corporation (BCDC) is actively entertaining some possible Revolving Loan Fund inquiries. Specifically looking to lend to small businesses.

Berlin Conservation Club- There was no-one present to report though Jim from this group was added to the inspiration wall.

Ron Harke was not present to report and Barry Abbot gave the update consisting of the lock cleanup was completed and the group is looking to 2023 events.

Below is the 2022 Club Calendar

The 2022 Berlin Boat Club Calendar

(as of January 2022, the calendar is tentative and subject to change)

November Community Holiday Parade – Theme is “Storybook Christmas”

Thanks

Ron Harke

Dr. Emmett Durtschi, the Berlin Area School District Superintendent, reintroduced himself and explained the spring referendum coming quicker than people think. The school is putting on the Addams Family and continues to find the new normal in hopefully post-Covid times.

Ashley Bartol reported the Boys and Girls Club had started to put on the unmet needs program and also would be putting on Coats for Kids, Trunk or Treat Meals, Adopt a family, and the holiday telethon.

Bobbie Erdman reported the City had been discussing the budget and may also need to host a referendum to make the expenses more manageable.

Tim Ludolph updated regarding GLCVB the current initiative is to utilize social media mediums to promote tourism in area communities. As of the last month, there has been some promotion of Berlin with a large quantity of views. Anyone who wants to have their business or event promoted by them should contact tludolph@cityofberln.wi.gov.

The Historic Society had been involved with the updating of the Inspiration Wall and Bobbie Erdmann discussed that event. The Ghost Tour was cancelled and this group has not had enough volunteers to keep programming like this on pace with the past.

Kiwanis- There was no-one present to report.

The group discussed the Library updates are typically on their webpage in full <https://www.berlinlibrary.org/newsletter>.

Sue Trampf reported the Lion’s Club’s Assistive Technology Fair at the Grace Lutheran took place on October 4th and was a success with vendors reaching new clients. For Fundraising, the club is putting together the annual coupon book with help from Berlin Journal. They are also planning the Cheese Box Sale, still a work in progress. The cheese should be available for pickup on the first of November. The Lions will be working with the Boys and Girls club to put on adopt a family, coats for kids, and the food bank.

Local Media- There was no-one present to report.

Rebecca Bays presented the Parks Department is winding down from an intense summer with the campgrounds closing by the middle of the month. The Indoor Pool will not operate to usual capacity due to staffing struggles and they need more help to expand the hours. The Men’s Basketball club will meet on Wednesday nights.

Rebecca Bays presented the Senior Center was still working on coming back from Covid.

They were slated to announce by the paper fundraising is to commence to add a flight of stairs from the lot at the Senior Center up to Noyes Street. The goal is to get \$7,000.00 and not need to rely on city funds and instead grants and donations. The Center has been adding classes and carry out food and working to ensure reasonable transit.

Theda Care- Juliette Manor had distributed the Halloween letter to the CommUnity Team and this was distributed for anyone who had not already read it.

Veteran Groups- The VFW is scheduled to have the color guard be at Homecoming and Veterans Day is the next major event.

For New Business additional discussion took place about what may be up and coming downtown. Tim will update the group once a Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for Bijak's.

Discussion took place on how to keep the group from getting off topic and networking on the side. There may be formal administration or time limits imposed to keep order.

A motion to adjourn was made by David Stone and seconded by Barry Abbott. The motion carried by an affirmative voice vote at 9:13 A.M.

The Next Meeting will be at Council Chambers in City Hall on Wednesday November 2nd at 8 A.M.

-Respectively Tim Ludolph