

## CommUnity Team

October 2, 2024

Berlin City Hall

Members Present: Tammy Bending, Bobbie Erdmann, Marie Reilly, Sue Trampf, Matthew Stepniewski, Sue Kiener, Dr. Emmitt Durtschi

The CommUnity Team meeting was called to order at 10:02AM by Sue Kiener.

### **#2 & #3 - Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

Motion to approve the agenda: Erdmann 1st, Bending 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion approved through a voice vote.

Motion to approve the September 4, 2024 minutes: Trampf 1<sup>st</sup> with corrections, Stepniewski 2<sup>nd</sup> with corrections, motion approved through a voice vote. Minutes will be corrected as requested.

### **#4 - Discussion and updates from civic groups, organizations, city departments, etc.**

Kiener read an update from an email that came from Advocap's Karen Winkel-Dishong: "Number of homeless individuals in our Tri-County/Winnebagoland region (Green Lake Co, FDL Co and Winnebago Co) continues to rise. Customers are always searching for affordable housing. Community has been wonderful with donations. Any questions or concerns, please call my Advocap/work cell at 920-420-1585."

Kiener updated the group on upcoming ribbon cuttings:  
Clay Lamberton's new all-inclusive playground: Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM  
Driftwood: Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM

Reilly/BCDC update:

Buildings with interest: Truesdell building, Marquette Grains (Bohn Implement building), old Chamber office (104 E Huron), old Dominoes (next to Berlin Beauty), former Juliette Manor site.  
Business update: Odds & Ends closing doors (Nigbor building)

Erdmann gave Historical Society update:

State plaque for Lucy Morris was originally bought by AEUW but now has no ownership and it needs restoration. The Berlin Historical Society has adopted the sign and will be working towards restoration of it.

The Nathan Strong gazebo history of Herman Stater's (local businessman who organized the first band to play at the gazebo) family will be visiting to honor a painting of such that was donated to the society.

The Inspiration Wall at the High School will have two new honorees (#40 & #41) added on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 2PM.

The antiques appraisal event, with appraiser Mark Moran, will be back in December in cooperation with the Library.

Stepniewski gave a Farmer's & Merchant's Bank update:

FMB along with WHEDA is offering a housing program with low to no down payment loan for the low to moderate income customers and will also offer a restoration package for homes that require some work.

Sue Trampf gave the ABC Group update:

The holiday parade theme is "Celebrate Kindness & Giving" will have ATV's along the parade route to collect items for the food pantry and hygiene products.

Bootify Berlin event (happening Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>) is an extension of the ABC Group - is a pub crawl with basket raffles and is well-underway. The proceeds from this event will go towards the building lights in the downtown.

The tree staking (for the Nov 21<sup>st</sup> Lighting of the Park event) will be on October 26th starting at 9AM at Nathan Strong Park. Adoption of those trees will begin that day.

Red, white, and green Christmas lights and AM radios can be donated to the ABC Group/Harry Kwidzinski by calling 920-361-0864.

Local TV stations will cover the events.

#### **#5 CommUNITY Newsletter**

Will be put on hold until January and we will circle back to it at that time.

#### **# 6 - Volunteers are needed for all the events.**

If you can give even just an hour or two to any of these events please reach out to the organization or to City Hall and they can put you in touch with the groups.

Volunteer can be from:

Local businesses/employees of  
Youth groups/Boys & Girls Club

Fox River Industries

Bring a friend

New residents looking to get involved

Suggestion: the City website Calendar of events can list the number of volunteers needed for the events. Create and distribute a flyer asking for the general public to volunteer which can be put at the banks and the library.

Eve from Grizzly Fitness called stating they will volunteer for events.

#### **#7 & #8 – Old & New Business**

#### **#9 Team meeting day & time discussion**

Continue to switch up the location to get the businesses involved.

November meeting will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 10AM at Farmer's & Merchant's Bank.

December meeting will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> at the Berlin School District office at 10AM.

Suggested to make sure the community knows who we are and what we are doing.

Possibly start a Facebook page.

#### **#10 Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Erdmann 1st, Reilly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion approved through a voice vote.