

Hyde Park Community Circle Meeting Minutes February 1, 2016

Attendees

Present: John & Judy Clark, Everett Dickenson, Deborah Henderson, Teresa Farquharson, Antonia Kontos, Terry MacWilliams, Julie Rohleder, Dan Young and Marilyn Zophar.

Lighting Ceremony Evaluation

Everyone felt the lighting ceremony and Frosty-the-Snowman and craft children activities at the library went very well.

It was recommended we make hot chocolate in a larger container (not one used for coffee) instead of making individual cups. Teresa has a 3-gallon container we can use. She would also like to use Hershey's cocoa rather than the mix. For each gallon of milk we can make 26 servings. She would like us to advertise it as homemade hot chocolate. It might be nice to have tea too. We would need hot water also. We talked about having more than cookies but we all agreed we should keep it simple. Everett thought it went beautifully.

Dan spoke about getting the wreaths back. He spoke with Rick Heath for North Hyde Park and Don Waterhouse for the Hyde Park wreath. Teresa said it would be nice to use a local nursery to make the wreaths next year. She gave Williams Christmas Trees an opportunity to quote it. Teresa will follow up with him. If this works out, we should get back to Paine's and let them know we were very happy with their work but we have gotten someone in the village to do them. Dan could show Eric of Williams Christmas Trees how the wreaths are made on the rings.

John Clark reported that it was difficult to get the lighting instructions relayed to the lighters this year. They didn't seem to want to listen to experience and missed the importance of lighting the exact number of lights stated by the readers and not light one light per name. This is because some people donate one light in memory of multiple people while others donate one light per person or event named. We had more lights turned on than donated and we almost ran out of lights. This caused concern on the part of those who had set the event up. Judy suggested we type up basic lighting instructions that

**Lighting
Ceremony
Evaluation
continued**

are given to the lighters before the event. This way there won't be struggles with the lighting process the night of the event. The lighters need to appreciate there are some better ways to get the whole process correct.

It was suggested it would be more effective if we have all of the lights in the hall off as the lights are lit. We should have someone stand by the light switch in case of emergency. We could leave the kitchen light on but the darker, the better.

We didn't have our music ready prior to the start of the ceremony. We need to test the CD player out beforehand.

We made \$173.79 after expenses on this event. Not all expenses were reported, so if people had not donated items, the bottom line would likely have been different.

It was noted that the parking lot and entrance to the Parish Hall were too dark for comfort. Marilyn wondered if we could donate some money for new strings of lights. We could donate a string and have it put out across the street from the hall. Maybe the Village Improvement Association could match our donation. Carol Robertson would probably be the best one to approach. Dan mentioned the JAM sessions at Second Congregational Church. They are multiple non-profit groups working together for their communities. The synergy is wonderful. This would be the same idea. Teresa will contact Carol Robertson and follow up on this idea. It would be helpful to know how much it would cost to install lights. We also wondered if we could get a motion light. We should price this out.

The decorations in the hall looked nice. The snowman theme was carried out in the hall which was nice.

**Frosty-the-
Snowman
and
Children's
activities
Evaluation**

Frosty was still too warm in the costume. The fireplace wasn't even on this year. Terry and Marilyn said they had plenty of space for the crafts this year. They would like to put down a tarp next year under the craft area. Terry suggested we make gingerbread men next year in addition to the

Frosty-the-Snowman and Children's activities Evaluation continued

snowmen. The bus went smoothly. We have enough bracelets for next year.

In all there were about 30 children and parents. The bus and bus driver are donated by the bus company. We should include the bus company's name in the final article for the News & Citizen. Marilyn will try to get the bus driver's name next year.

Marilyn asked if we could turn the street lights on at a different time next year so the kids can enjoy it. We discussed how this might work. Perhaps after the lighting ceremony is over and before refreshments. Then the kids can get on the bus and ride to the Parish Hall. Dan could head to the village garage before the kids board the bus for the Parish Hall. He would be given the go ahead to turn on the lights once the bus gets to the Parish Hall. Dan probably would need a flashlight for his trek to the garage.

Think Spring Grant Request

Antonia reported we applied for a \$560 grant to help defray Think Spring costs. Judy said we thought it was good to show that HPCC also put in money towards the event. We should know whether we got the grant by March. Deb will check with the Foundation and speak with Kim Moulton, town clerk, to make sure the money gets to us if we do get it.

Think Spring Planning

We had six sponsors last year. We asked for \$25 which brought in \$150. Judy said there were lots more people she wanted to call for sponsorships but she ran out of time. We talked about other ideas for sponsors. The Animal Medical Hospital, McMahan Chevrolet (now in Hyde Park), Bailey's Flower Shop (David Bothfield, Karen Siddell), Roberts Landscaping were suggested. Judy is willing to contact people. Businesses with some relation to spring products or activities would be good candidates. We should think about North Hyde Park people as well. Send any ideas to Judy. We prefer to not tap the same sponsors as the Home Day event.

Dan Young and Denise Greene are master gardeners. Marilyn will ask Denise if she would be willing to attend the event.

**Think Spring
Planning
continued**

We could then advertise that there was a master gardener in attendance. We want to make sure adults know this event is for them as well and not just for kids.

Food was donated. Antonia and her husband donated the milk and cucumber sandwiches. Antonia contacts people for cupcake donations.

Dan started the seeds last week. He has planted calendula. Last year we had three different kinds of marigolds, zinnias, calendula which is an edible plant and dwarf sunflowers.

The event is Saturday, March 19 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Antonia will prepare the flyer for the electric bill. Julie will do the photocopying of the flyers. It needs to be done by the 20th.

Antonia did the advertising in the News & Citizen, Front Porch Forum, WLVB, WDEV, WCDDT – local stations owned by Ken Squires. Judy will email the community calendar email address to Antonia. We should rotate posts about the event on Front Porch Forum. Barb from No Strings Marionettes prepares flyers. Marilyn will do the seedlings again this year. Antonia puts the big sandwich board out front at the school. She puts an announcement in the school newspapers. She wants to put posters in North Hyde Park as well.

The marionette show we chose for this year is the “Treasure Hunt.” The school is reserved. Arrival time is 9 for the puppeteers and 9:30 a.m. for set up. The slide show should be set up. Antonia needs to get the slide show on a flash drive from Dan. Darren, the custodian, had the gym open last year. Antonia will contact her friend at Lamoille school to get helpers as she did last year. They were very helpful, especially with clean up. Antonia will make less cucumber sandwiches this year. Julie will make apple butter sandwiches. It was suggested we make signs for the food. String cheese – get less this year. Get six six-packs. Carrot sticks. Needed more cider. We’ll get 3 gallons this year. ½ gallon of white milk. Chocolate milk went fast. Get 5 ½ gallons. Antonia gets cupcake makers. She wants to bring in

**Think Spring
Planning
continued**

parents of kids in school who are more likely to want to participate. Marilyn would like to get the day care centers involved. Teachers at school could help with ideas for cupcake makers.

We want to know how to get older kids to come to the event. Do we have any publicity at the elementary school?

Teresa will ask Hannafords and Price Chopper if they would donate. Do we have cold cups? Antonia will check at the school to see if we can have a compost trash can and recycling bins available and find out how we handle the various trash.

We need better cleaning supplies – sponges, sprays, paper towels, wash cloths, etc. We didn't have enough last year.

Crafts – under the sea ideas. Terry thought doing fish and treasure chests might be good. She will give this some more thought. They don't want to use felt this year. It didn't work well with the glue. Teresa will contact Rhonda Griswold who was a big help with the puppet craft last year.

Something was raffled off last year. We must have gotten the money from it. Antonia thinks Barb the puppeteer did the raffle. Deb was given the money that was donated at the event. Who has the donation basket/bucket? It has a pretty rainbow fabric on it.

We should consider writing a review on the No Strings Marionettes' website.

Dan and Marilyn take care of getting the soil for the plants.

**Home Day
Entertainment**

John Clark announced that "Girls' Night Out" will perform for Home Day for \$450. He will ask if they need a break during the performance.

We need to see if ReSource would do a miniature golf course and if Bishop Marshall would be willing to set up the old fashion games. Judy will contact them to see if they would be willing to do this for Home Day.

Event
Co-chairs

The four events and dates this year are:

| Event | Date | Co-chair | Co-chair |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Think Spring | 3/19 | Antonia Kontos | Susan Hayes |
| Jedidiah Ice Cream Social | 7/18 | | |
| Home Day | 9/17 | | |
| Lighting Ceremony | 12/2 | | |

We need to identify co-chairs for the remaining events.

Next Meeting

Monday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lanpher Memorial Library.
