

Community Relations Commission (CRC)

Meeting Minutes for Monday February 6, 2023

Forum(s): In Person-Village Hall

Present:

Carl Hill (Chairman)
Andrea Townson (Secretary)
Demetra Ashley (Member)
Jessica Washington (VOOF Executive Assistant)

Absent:

Howard White (Village Trustee-CRC Liaison)
Stephanie Mills (Member)

Call to Order: 7:02 pm by Chairman

- (a) Roll Call Completed
- (b) Reviewed 12-5-22 Minutes- Approved. Motion moved/seconded /carried.

Public Comments:

NONE

Old Business:

2022 Caroling in the Park: general discussion about the event, overall. Agreed event did not reach full potential for a variety of reasons/issues. Agreed to institute several measures for an improved 2023 event, including early planning and direct vendor outreach.

New Business

1. **2023 Event Calendar:** Body agreed on the following 2023 event calendar, subject to venue availability:
 - a) **Octoberfest, Saturday October 7, 2023-** 11am-5pm (Sgt. Means)
 - b) **Halloween Candy Give-Away, Sunday, October 29, 2023-** 2-4 pm (Village Hall Lot)
 - c) **Caroling in the Park, Saturday, December 16, 2023-** 2-4pm (Sgt. Means), with no vendors and carolers inside.

Chairman to contact OFPD to confirm and schedule dates above. Upon confirmation, CRC can begin official planning for advertising, marketing and vendor outreach. Also discussed the need to form Event Committees and Save-The-Date flyers.

2. **Jazz in the Park;** general discussion about the feasibility of a summer JITP event, given OFPD's weekly event, and possible venue constraints. Event could also be themed to coincide/compliment Juneteeth celebrations. Agreed on further discussion after Chairman reaches out to the OFPD.
3. **Community Outreach:** continuing solicitation of ideas for additional community outreach events, with new discussion of the **R.U.O.K** program, a wellness check program for seniors and other at-risk residents.

Chairmen provided written material from the Lake County program for interim review. The discussion included the possibilities of partnering with HOAs, HALO officers and Rich Central Senior Services. Further discussion to follow.

4. **CODE RED Registration:** discussion about the CRC's assistance in advancing the village's goal of increasing resident registration in this emergency alert program. Suggestions: yard signs, post card mailings, water bill insertions and registration opportunities at all village events. The CRC will also include the CODE RED logo on its tablecloths and provide registration opportunities at its events. Details to follow.
5. **Increased Event Publicity:** discussed the need to get village events more widely advertised (i.e. Daily Southtown). It was agreed that once the 2023 event calendar is finalized, it is much easier to work closely with the South Suburban Visitors Bureau, to highlight village public events. Details to follow.
6. **CRC Webpage:** CRC plans to reach out directly to Lawrence Fisheries and Sean Micelle for interviews and photos. The goal is to highlight each business on the webpage. Details to follow.
7. **Miscellaneous:** discussion about the new **Of Course Olympia Fields** village logo .

Open Comments

None

Adjournment:

8;16pm motion moved/seconded/.carried.