

Lower Paxton Township Community Engagement Committee

Meeting Notes
March 17, 2021

Members in Attendance

Jim Seidler
Denise Hussar
Pat Crawford
Stan Smith via zoom
Bob MacIntyre

Members Absent

Also in Attendance

Rachelle Scott, Staff Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seidler called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm on the above date in Room 174 of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg.

MINUTES

Ms. Hussar made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2021 meeting, as corrected. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CEC PURPOSE AND GOALS

Ms. Scott stated that Mr. Gotshall requested a list of action items to achieve the purpose of the CEC. Based on what has been experienced the CEC primary purpose is to host the race, and he would like to see an explanation of what the CEC is doing and how it relates to the purpose.

Ms. Crawford suggested giving the memo to the Manager as it is written and providing more information if requested. Mr. MacIntyre suggested that the content of the memo should be separated into two documents, one for the purpose and one for the action steps.

Ms. Crawford noted that the main activity is the race, so the calendar list outlines the steps taken to run the race. If there was another project, the CEC would lay out steps to achieve that goal.

Mr. MacIntyre asked if the proposed community event at Heroes Grove will be another CEC event / project. Ms. Crawford explained that Faith Emanuel Church is running it and the Arts Council is interested in supporting it, but it is being run by the music person at the church who wanted an outdoor venue.

Ms. Hussar made a motion to send the memo to the Township Manager, Ms. Crawford seconded the motion, and a unanimous vote followed.

5K RACE

Ms. Crawford questioned the use of the frog for the mascot. Members agreed he represented the Friendship Center, so his use should be discontinued, and the Parks & Recreation logo should be used going forward.

Mr. Seidler asked about the vendor's ability to host it both in-person and virtual options which would allow for competitive and noncompetitive racing. Ms. Scott confirmed they are able to do both. The flyer would need to be modified to reflect the change. Mr. Seidler suggested the virtual participants could get a t-shirt but might not get awards. Mr. MacIntyre noted that a discounted price makes sense, but t-shirts shouldn't be included. Members discussed and agreed to a lower rate and no shirt or trophy, but they should all get a participation certificate. Ms. Scott stated that the race timer asked if the prices would change and if the free youth participant got a t-shirt, and the answer was no to both. She also asked if the early bird option should still be available. Mr. Seidler noted it might attract runners. The timer is ready to launch the registration when these details are answered.

Ms. Crawford asked about how registration will work on the morning of the race. The handling of the registration money will need to be worked out.

Mr. Seidler noted that Awards and Engraving did the work on the trophies for free, and he suggested that if that is done again this year, they could be considered a secondary sponsor and included on the banner and t-shirts.

Members discussed if the fire companies might come again and do their ladder arch. Even though they won't receive any donations, they could use the event as a recruitment event.

Sponsors

Mellon and Bortek asked that their 2020 donation be transferred to the 2021 race, Highway and the Lindsey's said to keep the donation and ask again next year.

Ms. Scott will send the letters out, and prep the flyer to be discussed at the next meeting.

The band is already booked, and the tent will need to be ordered.

Egg-Stravaganza

Mr. Seidler was asked to participate in the Easter event which will be trunk and treat style instead of an egg hunt. Families will drive through the parking lot and each station will have some sort of handout or goodie to give to the children. Mr. Seidler stated he will put a treadmill in the bed of his truck and run on it. He found slap bracelets that can have labels applied with a save the date announcement on them. Ms. Scott explained that the vendors will arrive at 10am and the event will go from 11-12 noon. The staff will print the labels and Ms. Hussar will put the labels on the bracelets.

Mr. MacIntyre proposed that the CEC make \$500 available for the organizers of the possible Vintage Brass concert, the Earth Day event, and the Egg Stravaganza. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Ms Hussar asked if there were some parameters to keep in mind as we give money out. Ms. Scott stated that Hershey donated chocolate so the Township will share that with any vendors that need something to hand out at the egg event. Ms. Hussar stated they could submit a proposal of how the money will be spent. Then there is a record of what was done and why, which would be approved by the Department Manager. A unanimous vote followed.

Mr. Seidler asked for help to decorate the truck. Stan and Denise agreed to help.

ARBOR DAY / EARTH DAY

OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Vacancies

Mr. Gotshall stated that CEC members should be members of another board. Because of that, she suggested recruiting someone from the Greenway Committee to participate in the CEC, then afterwards the CEC could add more members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 5:15 pm. The next meeting of the Community Engagement Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2021, at 4:00 pm in Room 174 of the Municipal Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner
Recording Secretary