

LEE GREETERS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, September 19, 2023; 7:00 pm

Members Present: Judith Belanger (Chair, arrived at 7:25 pm), Jennifer Messeder, Liz Stone

Members Absent: NA

Select Board liaison, Katrin Kasper: absent

Public Present: NA

I. Call meeting to order: 7:01 pm

- a. Welcome guests: NA
- b. Other: NA

II. Administrative tasks

- a. Approve Agenda – We need to tweak the Fair and silent auction topics because the Fair has been cancelled; otherwise, agenda approved by consensus.
- b. Approve Minutes of August 21
No changes were requested.
Liz moved to approve. Jen seconded. Approved 2-0.
- c. ABC FY25 Budget Presentation, Sept 28 at 6:50pm - all

Do we want to request funds for July 2024 through June 2025? Yes. How much? \$500, same as this year.

Who is available to attend the meeting? Liz has to be there anyway. Judy can also be there. Jen is not available.

Justifying the request – We're giving out about 40 gifts per six months. To this point, items have been donated, but we'd like to purchase more gift items (perhaps at a discount) to help support Lee businesses. We might also need to purchase materials or food for events.

ACTION: Liz and Judy to work together on a write-up for the meeting.

- d. Updating our charge – Liz

Liz reported that Andy Robertson said we can change our charge to whatever we want. We just need to send him a draft to get put on the Select Board agenda for approval. The current charge follows, with suggested changes.

“The Lee Greeters Committee will welcome new residents to the community ~~with a friendly visit~~, **host “get-to-know-you” events, support other committees’ events** and provide information about local organizations, businesses, available services, Town government and community activities.”

ACTIONS:

- Jen to send out the revised charge for discussion.
 - All members to review and comment on the new version.
 - Jen to send the revised charge to Andy Robertson for inclusion on a Select Board agenda.
- e. Gmail distro lists: residents and artisans - Jen
Jen created an Artisans distribution list in our gmail account. She needs the new resident email addresses (and month/year of move-in) to create a list for them.

III. Events

- a. Lee Fair, 9/23; planning status – all
Caren Rossi sent this email around today - Due to the date change, we have very few volunteers now available for this weekend. This coupled with the predicted inclement weather we are forced to cancel the Lee Fair scheduled for this Saturday, September 23rd.

We have three items for the silent auction – two in hand and one promised. Kristin Cisneros will hold onto the lantern until we know what (if anything) we will do about the auction. Does Bunny Coletti or Scott Kemp want their item back or can we hold onto them until TBD?

Is there another way we can do a silent auction outside of the Fair? Ideas:

At an election (2024 primaries or local):

- Can't be in the exit chute, so not everyone will go by.
- Bidders aren't likely to come back and bid up as they would at the Fair.
- We could have a table at an election, even if not an auction, to make us known.

At a “volunteer fair” or the volunteer dinner:

- Volunteer dinner has a limited audience; not good for an auction.
- A volunteer fair could work if it's like the Artisan Fair – at Mast Way, for 3-4 hours.

Online, using a Google or SharePoint “survey” kind of form:

- Is it feasible?
- Would it allow for re-bids?

- Would it be easy for low tech residents?

At a Farmer's Market:

- It would have to be in October, but do we have enough people to staff?
- Would there be enough foot traffic that late in the season?

Recreation Commission's Winter Carnival in January:

- This is the first event of its kind, so we don't know if it would work.
- If this is outside in the cold, will people stay long enough to re-bid?

Wait until next year's Fair:

- The Fair would be the best, but do we want to wait?
- If we need to hold onto auction items, where would we store them?
Probably at the Town Offices.

No matter what, we should ask for more items farther in advance of whatever the new plan is.

ACTION: Liz to ask Caren for details about the Winter Carnival. This is probably our best option for near-future events.

IV. Status of gifts and lists

- a. Update from MTAC on Electronic Media Policy – Jen
Jen met with MTAC on 9/11 and the group will work on suggested revisions to the policy.
- b. Kids Stuff list – Judy, Jen
Jen polished the draft. We should add a disclaimer that we aren't recommending any business and that residents should do their own research.

When we're ready to send, send to Denise Duval and Andy Robertson to get their input before publishing.

ACTIONS:

- Jen to update the draft.
- Everyone to review the draft.
- Jen to send the approved list to Denise and Andy for input.

- c. Gifts, next steps – Liz, Jen

Judy has made 40 more Emergency contact magnets.

We should get small paper bags with handles to help gather the small gifts so they're not rolling around in the recycling bins.

Let's use some of the October meeting to build new gift packets. We will relocate to the Town Office to make this easier.

ACTIONS:

- Liz to purchase bags.
- Jen to let Denise know we want to move the October meeting.

V. Donations

- a. Donation requests (Erick Sawtelle, Lee Artisans) – Judy, Jen
Judy to reach out to Erick to see if we can buy some local items at a discount (maybe \$5 per?). This would support local businesses without expecting them to make free donations, and it would spend down some of our current budget.

Purchases would be with our own money, then the purchaser would submit for reimbursement. A receipt or invoice can be helpful with reimbursement.

ACTION: Judy to reach out to Erick.

VI. SharePoint

- a. Update from Jen and MTAC?
Dean Rubine might have appropriate access now.
- b. Questions, concerns, obstacles – all
We're good. We can remove this item from the agenda.

VII. Additional business

Our scheduled November 21 meeting has been moved to the Town Offices due to a workshop taking place at the PSC. This is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Are we all available that night or would we prefer to cancel?

We will cancel the November meeting.

VIII. Meeting adjournment

Judy moved to adjourn. Liz seconded. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm