

Des Plaines Youth Commission Minutes- September 25th, 2023

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call - Neil, Burton, M. Cullotta, Doerr, R. Cullotta, Sebastian, Ludwig, and Dankowski. Also present: Ms. Amy Cengel, Forest School Principal, Mr. John Hock, Mr. Richard Ludwig, Mr. James Bober, Ms. Deborah Keegan, and Louanne McMillen, "Breakfast with Baby" program.

Public Comment- Ms. Luanne McMillen from the Salvation Army, "Breakfast for Baby" program was in attendance to talk about their program. They are located in Des Plaines and help to supply diapers and food to those in need. They do need volunteers to help on Saturday mornings as people drive through to pick up items from 8 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. They also have drop boxes to drop off donated items. . Thanks to Ms. McMillen for the information. She supplied business cards to all those present.

Minutes of August 28th, 2023 - Neil & Doerr made motions to approve minutes. Motion was carried.

Review/Brief Reports- Dankowski asked that these forms be turned in to her in November by chairs of 2023 events.

August 31st - Intergenerational Event- This was held from 4 pm to 5:30 with seniors and teens participating in a Trivia Contest. Snacks, and gift cards given out to the winners.

September 18th -District 62 Board Meeting - Neil and Dankowski attended the board meeting to present plaques to all of D62 schools (100% participation). Flowers were also presented in appreciation for assistance by J. Bova and T. Sommerfeldt. Dr. Amadei presented Neil and Dankowski with a button in appreciation for DPYC support and work in the community.

September 23rd, 2023- Fire Department Open House - R. Cullotta reported on the success of this event that was held from 11 to 2. 100 green drawstring bags were distributed with snacks, coloring book/crayons, and DPYC pencils. Candy was also distributed. This was very well received.

Budget - Keegan distributed an update of the current budget. Dankowski asked about guidelines that were furnished. - Amazon, 4Imprint, and Sam's Club are approved

vendors and there is a list of preferred vendors city uses. (tax exempt) Dankowski inquired about Wal-Mart being part of Sam's Club. Keegan said she would have to go to the store and ask about tax exempt. Fun Express is part of Oriental Trading and should be used, although prices are not seen online.

Middle School Event- Doerr has been in touch with River-Rand Bowl. A date of October 16th was scheduled. The event will begin between 4 and 4:30. Doerr will communicate information to middle schools. \$1200.00 was approved at our August meeting. Doerr is purchasing soda/water, so more students could participate and not pay the bowling alley charge for beverages.. Students are getting shoes, pizza, and bowling three games. Doerr, Neil, Sebastian, M. Cullotta, and Dankowski will be there to supervise. Dankowski is providing students to help mentor the students. Keegan is sending a waiver for participants.

September 29th - Maine West Homecoming- Dankowski will send food order for ELS students for Friday celebration to Keegan.

Trunk or Treat - October 28th - R. Cullotta reported on research of a new button machine. It is not being made anymore. Decision was rendered to have white t-shirts with DPYC logo and QR code. Kids would have an opportunity to use fabric markers and create a shirt or take them home. Candy will also be ordered and fabric markers. . (We had approved \$350.00 for buttons. Money will go toward the purchase of white shirts. A motion was made to purchase 1000 shirts , *not to exceed \$ 2500.00.* Motions made by Doerr and Neil. Motion was carried. *Shirt would say D.P. Youth Commission and have a QR code to facilitate getting info on DPYC events, etc.* Keegan is checking on shirt costs. R. Cullotta will communicate with Keegan. (Note: Geen bags are another option, depending on shirt costs.)

Intergenerational Event -Blankets for Homeless- This event will take place at Frisbie Center on October 30th from 4 to 5:30. M. Cullotta found scissors needed for fabric on Amazon. Sebastian said that someone is donating some fleece to us on October 5th. After she determines what else is needed, she will contact Keegan to order additional fabric. A budget of \$700.000 was initially approved for IE and we currently have a balance of \$561.40. Sebastian & M. Cullotta are chairs for this.

Veteran's Day Celebration -Per MW AP, no celebration is planned.

Cards for Thanksgiving Baskets- - Dankowski said last year cards were very well received. A combination of YAB and Chippewa MS made cards.(*Note:Per R. Argus, we*

need 300 cards by November 20th) Principal Cengel was going to follow up with MS principals)

District 62 -Youth Empowerment Seminars - Burton said that they are in the final stages of planning this event. *(DPYC approved \$1200.00 at August meeting)* Burton asked for additional giveaways for participants) Suggestion was made to use white shirts left from Trunk or Treat or order additional green drawstring bags.

Tree Decorating in MS- Tabled for next meeting.

Holiday Hoopla- Sebastian requested a budget of \$600.00 for this event, which will be held at the DPPL on December 9th from 1-3. Motion made by Doerr & Sebastian, motion carried. Dankowski suggested MS students assist at this event. Many volunteers are needed.

Resource Bags for students - Burton suggested we order green bags and fill them for various events. We used the bags originally ordered by Ludwig. We would like bags with QR code and revisit this at the October meeting. (This is an option for Truck or Treat/depending on costs of white shirts)

Suggestions:

Canopy - Neil requested that Keegan get a cost on a canopy that would have our logo and be more visible to the community, when working events. Also, we have a roll down sign that we can use for additional visibility to the public.

DPYC Literature- Tri-fold briefly discussed; commissioners saw no need for them at this time.

Pencils/Pens- Discussion ensued about purchasing pens or pencils at promotional items. Suggestion was made to purchase 2000 pencils/pens at a cost of \$1500.00 Doerr/Sebastian made motion and motion was carried. Doerr will research and provide Keegan with information.

Adjournment- Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m. and the next meeting will be held on October 23rd, 2023. We will be utilizing two rooms because YAB will be invited to work on cards and ornaments.

