

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
Celtic Fest Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 10, 2024

4 pm – Regan Room – Village Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jenn at approximately 4:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Jenn Djordjevic

Joane McLeod

Ben Gibbs

Linda Scheck

Craig Kuehne

Staff Liaison

Patrick Seger

Absent

Mayor Chris Nelson

Mayor McLeod

Doris Herner

Guest

Michaela Souronis

Alicia Guerrero

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

A motion to approve the August 6, 2024, minutes was made by Craig and seconded by Linda and all commission members were in favor.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT-

No comments from the public.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Ben reported out that he felt things were great. He suggested a better place for the Corgi race location. Some feedback received was about the audience not being able to see because of the large crowds. He also felt that the crowd was maintained throughout much of the event.

The bourbon tasting vendors indicated that they felt that many participants entered the tasting area right after the Corgi race, however, they were only scheduled to be open for an hour. They suggested moving the Corgi race up. Other feedback was the Corgi races were done too quickly and some people missed out as it was done by the end, they get there.

Joane received an idea from trustee Kinane that we think about creating an opportunity for race participants to donate any proceeds to a local charity.

Alicia provided a food and beverage sales report for the event.

Ben also suggested keeping the momentum by having a large band at the end of the night at 8:00 p.m. He said it does not have to be Celtic related. Jenn suggested perhaps an additional

Corgi course to increase the opportunities for races. It was suggested to split them by age, however, Ben has tried this in the past and given the anticipated numbers it would take too long.

Linda said that the Sword group was well received however, they needed a bigger space. Linda felt that the tent space and organization is confusing. She suggested some sort of clear entrance and way signs to help participants understand activities. Ben suggested with the marketplace, vendors and B stage it is confusing. It was suggested to have a smaller tent house the Bourbon tasting outside of large tent. Ben suggested that we brainstorm options of tent and activity layout to anticipate the larger crowds.

Joane suggested the commission pick a date for next August. Ben thinks Saturday August 9, 2025, will work.

Linda felt that the vendors had a good time however, a lot of wind. Jenn indicated that the train was squeaky, but folks liked them. The Axe throwing vendor has received mixed feedback.

Entertainment was very well received however, a need for a separate MC for the tent stage. Linda suggested Phil who has worked at this years July 4th parade. They discussed the event participants working through events that are Village events and Now Area Hideaway Beer Garden. It was suggested to promote as an all-day event to bring a steady flow of participants.

Alica reported that the food and beverage event went very well. Ben indicated that the sales report indicate that the event has grown. Having the event outside, when the day is nice, is very popular. Ben suggested that we revisit where we plan to set up the Corgi race for next year so it doesn't interfere with the entertainment acts.

Jenn suggested that we meet in October and not meet in November and December. Commission agreed. Ben suggested that we consider expanding the event to multiple days.

V. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda and seconded by Joanne, all commission members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at the Village Hall.