

September 9, 2009

The Tinley Park Community Resources Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Reta Brudd at 7:40 p.m., at the Kallsen Conference Center.

Present: Chairman Reta Brudd and Commissioners: Don Budny, Jack Carey, Mike Cutrano, Ron Centanni, Linda Hayes, Deb Melchert, Phil Raines, Mike Sevier, Al Siegers, Jeff Studzinski, Dave Szumigalski and Barbara Rose Whalen.

Absent: Commissioner: Steve Grein

Guests: Tom Staunton – Liaison Trustee and Amy Chmura – Staff Liaison

Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Dave Szumigalski to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Barbara Rose Whalen. Motion carried by voice vote.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Don Budny to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2009 meeting as submitted, seconded by Deb Melchert. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business

Studio

Chairman Brudd reported we have two new young volunteers to be trained for the Studio. Our two current volunteers have limited time, but we will be losing them to college soon. Dave Szumigalski hosted the August show that is currently airing. We are having problems with the editing machine ever since we added the new drive. We are looking to have this repaired.

Christmas Events

Amy Chmura, Staff Liaison reported requests for Vendors for the Holiday Market have begun. They will be selected for quality items and a variety of types of vendors. She and Judy will be going to area shows over the next couple of weeks to see vendors.

OPAMA has a meeting tomorrow and they are considering moving to a daytime parade for Santa's arrival on Saturday. They feel it would not be as cold during the day. More information will be forthcoming. If they would do a night time parade it would be held on Sunday.

Plans are moving forward for the weekend of December 4th, 5th & 6th. The location for the ice carvings has been approved. Movies being shown at the Landmark have been approved, and discussions are being held with the carriage company for possible drop off at that site.

The Tree Lighting is scheduled for Friday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Deb Melchert will be coordinating the booth at the Holiday Market, and we will be manning this on Friday night. Al Siegers has agreed to Chair the Santa Arrival event on Saturday and Sunday. We will be scheduling people to work at the next two meetings. We will not be distributing the hot chocolate and cookies, but we will be distributing tickets for this. Possibly we can arrange to have everybody not work both of the days or the entire time both days.

We have two volunteers to be Rudolph. This will allow them to alternate because the costume is very warm and cumbersome. Chairman Brudd said their has been an idea discussed to have Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive in a convertible with kids wearing antlers to lead the convertible and have Rudolph being escorted and directed by two of the kids in the lead. An escort will also be needed during the Santa event because of the limited vision with the costume.

Chairman Brudd said we will need assistance from other Commissions to man the booth the two days we have the Santa event. Deb will be approaching the Veterans Commission and the Kevin Clarke Committee for assistance. We will need two or three adult volunteers for each shift of four or five hours. The booth will be set up so all that is needed is people to sell.

CRC Picnic/BBQ

Al said the date needs to be moved back to September 19th at 6:00 p.m. A sign up list for refreshments was distributed as well as maps to his home for anyone who has not been there. If the weather is bad this will be indoors, but hopefully it will be nice enough for an outdoor party. Everyone is to bring the beverage of their choice.

Discover Tinley

Annette Rickerson distributed the initial letter and forms for Discover Tinley to be reviewed by the Commissioners.

She has contacted Len Wiencek to place the forms on the Village website. He advised the link to the forms will be on the Home Page under the Latest Village News Heading. Annette has advised him we will not be finalizing this information until a later date. She does not like the information available until she knows the mailing has been sent out to the businesses and former vendors. January 7th, 2010 would be the date she would like this displayed for downloading of the letter and forms. An additional hundred forms will be run off for the Chamber and Village offices.

Annette asked if credit card payment would be available by this time. Trustee Staunton said he would not make any promises because although this is being researched it takes time to finalize.

Discussion then occurred regarding the expansion proposed for the Convention Center, but the current time line should not affect this event.

Amy said there is a mailbox for CRC@tinleypark.org where she can check in and forward out. This could be placed on the forms for items she could answer.

Chairman Brudd said all that is being mailed out is the letter. All of the forms will be online for downloading.

At this time Trustee Staunton had to leave, and advised the Commissioners there is a replacement in mind for our last open Commissioner.

Chairman Brudd suggested that a line be placed in the letter stating the forms are not included in the letter. Amy suggested we also place where information on Discover Tinley can be found online. Annette asked that she forward her the information to be inserted.

Commissioner Centanni said the date for the deadline for not-for-profit organizations requesting sales needs to be changed so there is time allowed for review and approval. Annette explained how in the past requests have been processed. Chairman Brudd said all that needs to be done is the removal of the date as they can list the information requested on the form.

Annette said for everyone's information the deadline for Discover Tinley will be April 2nd, and the Scholarship deadline is April 1st. She picks up the forms submitted on Friday at 5:00 p.m. and again on Saturday at noon to get any that may have been left in the drop box on Friday evening. The Scholarship Information has to be postmarked by April 1st.

Al asked if we could send a flyer with the business license mailing to save some postage. Annette said the biggest job is coordinating the Chamber labels with the Business labels to avoid duplications. This year she has to find a way to reach the restaurants because they do not come with the business labels. Amy said she recently received labels for restaurants and professional services. She will check on this and advise Annette.

Discover Tinley Booklet

Chairman Brudd said the booklet will be updated. Amy said the program will be converted from Corp Design to In Design. Chairman Brudd will work with the new Commissioners to update this item. Len Wiencek has been very cooperative

Discussion then occurred on people who do not have computers receive the information. Anyone requesting a hard copy can contact the Village Clerk's Office to have a copy downloaded and sent out. Cards are distributed at Discover Tinley and the information is included in the Exchange on how to receive a hard copy. Al said we do not want to confuse the Discover Tinley Expo icon with the icon for the Booklet.

New Business

Youth in Government

Discussion occurred pertaining to the scheduling of this event. Chairman Brudd said she would like one of the new Commissioners to work with Ron Centanni on this project so we have a back up since Don Budny has other projects he is working on. The tentative dates for the counterpart meeting would be October 20th or 27th, and the presentation on November 3rd. Ron will advise Annette when the letters are to be sent to the Village Trustees and Staff.

Chairman Brudd asked if Lincolnway would be included in this event. Ron will research to see how many students they have from Tinley Park that may wish to participate.

Discover Tinley – New Proposal

Chairman Brudd moved back to Discover Tinley to allow Al Siegers to make the following presentation.

He said the Chamber of Commerce has been part of Discover Tinley for a long time, and from time-to-time we have attempted to get them more involved through creative ideas. There is a group in the Chamber that wishes to introduce an event to Discover Tinley that would be called the Brew and Vine Tasting Festival as part of this event at the Convention Center. The hope would be to do this for a year or two and then branch out to the new 80th Avenue Train Station at some point as an event similar to Oktoberfest. He feels this event would fill the spaces that would have been filled with vehicles in the past. Tickets for the event would be sold that provide small tastings of wine in a souvenir glass.

A question arose that alcohol is not allowed at Discover Tinley. Al reported that Mayor Zabrocki has said he would do everything within his power to make this work by taking care of liquor restrictions or special licensing needed for the day to attempt to simplify this issue.

Chairman Brudd said the only vendor that has been denied serving alcohol was Ed & Joe's who may participate with the Chamber. This could mean the loss of a vendor.

The Chamber would be required to rent booth space with pipe and drape. The parents want to see their children from this area. Security would be necessary in that area.

Commissioner Dave Szumigalski asked how this event would fit in with the Discover Tinley event. Al said we have the food tasting that gels with this. Chairman Brudd said these would be local vendors. Al said there may possibly be vintners and brewing companies within the State that may want to participate. Chairman Brudd said this would need to be worked out because she is unwilling to provide free booth space. If the Chamber wishes to pay the fee and give the booth to the vendor that is their prerogative. She felt this would be something different to add to Discover Tinley and would not be a large area.

Chairman Brudd said this would be done as a fundraiser, and anyone entering the area would need to purchase a ticket. Al said there would be no complimentary tickets.

The next item discussed was the selling of wine by the vendors. Not-for-profit organizations are allowed to sell items, but the sales would not be of a Chamber item.

Jack Carey questioned the possible ramifications of the Village providing a discounted one-day license. Al said the Chamber has all of the necessary insurance required.

Phil Raines asked if the sellers would be covered under the Chamber's Dram Shop. Amy said Twigs "n' Tea came in and did samples at the Block Party and our Ordinances do not allow this right now so samples were given away under the VFW. The Mayor is addressing this issue to

amend the Ordinance to allow licensing so people can come in to do wine tasting at such events as the Fine Arts Festival. Dave said there are separate legal entities involved. Jack asked if we would be liable if someone gets hurt in the alcohol tasting area.

Amy said the Village Attorney is currently working on this item.

Deb asked if there would be a problem with pre-sales rather than selling the product at the booth. Chairman Brudd said we do not allow any other vendor to transact cash sales on the floor. Al said the Chamber is a not-for-profit that we allow to sell. Chairman Brudd said the Chamber is sponsoring the event with ticket sales, but they are not selling the product.

Dave said if he was a vendor that had been attending Discover Tinley for years without being allowed to sell his product he would be upset that someone else now could. He feels he may not come back next year. This is the only concern he feels we need to discuss as a group.

Al said this group is looking for the opportunity to get their feet wet. The hope is to get back like an Oktoberfest where organizations volunteer. He feels that organization made thousands of dollars for organizations.

Chairman Brudd said we will not have car dealerships exhibiting this year, and this leaves space available. This booth could be placed in a rear corner in an area of approximately 10 to 12 booths. She feels it may be fun to do something different at Discover Tinley.

Al said he is relying on information from people who have done research on this item. The first person he spoke to was Mayor Zabrocki who feels if it is good for the Chamber it is good for the Village, and would assist however he can. Chamber sponsors a number of community activities and needs fundraisers.

Deb asked if signage indicating this is a Chamber sponsored activity separate from our booths as not to aggravate our vendors.

Chairman Brudd said if this works out, no advertisement the Chamber puts out should exclude Discover Tinley in any way shape or form. It would be beer and wine tasting at Discover Tinley. Al said they want this to be a joint venture. They may get some win manufacturers who are willing to sponsor the Chamber of Commerce at this event. Chairman Brudd said this would still be a tasting not the sale of larger glasses.

Annette said according to the current policy, unless it is a Chamber Member selling the product for their organization they do not fall under the rule. Chairman Brudd said she has a problem with anyone walking out of the expo with bottles of wine.

Jack asked about the church organizations that have rented booth space over the years that may be offended by the wine being served at the event. He feels they would not return the following year. Chairman Brudd said she is willing to speak to any vendor before the event with regard to this issue.

Al said the Chamber Members pay taxes to the community and school districts, and he would appreciate the cooperation of the Commissioners with the business community of Tinley Park. Jack said his only concern is to avoid riling up other vendors.

Al said all he wants is to get an event going that would get volunteer organizations to donate some time on a weekend to receive funds for their organization. He used the past weekend event in Frankfort as the type of event he would like to see again.

There were comments to try it to see what happens. Ron said we need to discuss the possible consequences to going ahead with projects or you may be shooting yourself in the foot. Chairman Brudd asked what he sees as the major consequences, and he said the issues brought up at this meeting.

Chairman Brudd said with regard to the vendors wanting to sell, the food vendors have never wanted to sell. We were down to six vendors last year and may not even have any this year.

Al said the Chamber attempted to hold this event at the Convention Center, but this would be very pricey. They felt a joint venture with Discover Tinley would be a win-win situation.

Chairman Brudd said one other thought would be to hold the event in the small parking lot by the overhead doors, but weather could be a problem. She personally feels the project is worth a try to jazz up the event a little. The only vendors she could see questioning this would be the food vendors. Ninety-five of our vendors do not have a product they could sell at the expo. She would be willing to speak to these vendors about the sale of food, and the Convention Center does not allow the selling of food. Our food booth has to be manned by a not-for-profit group.

Phil Raines asked if the Convention Center would allow liquor sales. They provide the alcoholic beverages for the events they have. Annette said she has attended conventions where they either had to purchase the alcoholic beverages from the center or pay corkage. Al said they would allow this event, but would want to sell the food. This would need to be cleared before we go any further. Amy said Margaret Collins was okay with this event.

Chairman Brudd asked if the Chamber would be going to local vendors. Al said they would approach local vendors. Chairman Brudd said they could have crackers and cheese to clear their pallets, but there could be no food served.

Motion was made by Jack Carey, seconded by Barbara Rose Whalen to continue researching the possibility of a wine and beer tasting sponsored by the Tinley Park Chamber during Discover Tinley. Motion was carried by a raise of hands with only one opposed.

Ron Centanni wished to clarify he is not against the Chamber, he is only opposed to the sale of alcohol at Discover Tinley.

Al said there is also the thought that after Discover Tinley has been taken down on Saturday night; the wine-tasting could stay and become an exclusive adult event. The Convention Center

has no problem with them staying until 7:00 or 8:00 p.m., .if they so choose. He is not sure if this would occur.

Chairman Brudd said there would be a break between our closing down and the evening event reopening. Al said volunteers would come in to do tear down and reset up. The entire thing could fall apart, but this would be an initial step.

Chairman Brudd feels the Commission concern about the selling is a huge item that had to be raised.

Annette said the letters may not be done now until November, because there may to be changes needed in the verbiage with the addition of this event.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Al Siegers and seconded by Deb Melchert to adjourn to the September 9th meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.