

MORTON GROVE SPECIAL EVENTS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2016 COMMISSION MEETING

President Paul Minx called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were:

Eric Brodsky	Jim Karp	Paul Tobin
Melanie Brodsky	Jon Kobus	Maria Toth
Georgianne Brunner	Cindy Miehke	Jeff Wait
Terri Cousar	Chris Minx	Mike Weitzel
Ralph Czerwinski	Barb Novick	Pete Witko
Ann Estey	Katie Shimanski	Pat Zmolek

Absent: Bill Grear, Ed Ramos, Dan DiMaria, John Pietron, Jacky Liston, and Rich Block were absent with notice.

Introduction of Guests

Eric Poders was present.

Commission President Comments

President Minx commented that we will be getting new, redesigned volunteer and staff tee-shirts. They will have the Village logo on the right shoulder, the Park District's logo on the left shoulder, the Doughboy on the back, and the Morton Grove Days logo on the breast. We will also be selling 16-ounce mugs at the beer ticket booth. The mugs will have the silhouette of the Doughboy and all proceeds from the sales of these mugs will be donated to the Historical Society's "Save the Doughboy" efforts.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Karp said that the Commission has \$36,531.95 in the checking account, and \$53,027.31 in a CD.

Office Manager's Report

No report

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Beer Garden *(Rita Minx / Chris Minx)*

Chris said he had met with Malarkey's and finalized the beverage selections and prices: domestic beer will be sold for \$4/glass, \$12/pitcher; premium beer for \$6/glass, \$15/pitcher. MGD will be sold in aluminum bottles; Mikes and Red Apple Ale in cans; all are \$4 each. Beer sales will stop at 10:45 every night except July 4th. Beer sales will end at 9:15pm on the 4th, but pitchers will be sold until 9:45pm. This year again, beer garden patrons will receive a wristband when they pay the entry fee, and the wristbands will be a different color each night and will include the Morton Grove Days logo.

Georgie asked if the Beer Garden entrance should close at 9:00 p.m. on the 4th. President Minx said that made sense. Mike Weitzel said the hours should be posted all over the grounds. President Minx said it would be posted and there would be periodic announcement from the stage reminding patrons of the hours. Georgie said it would also be a good idea to have the information on the tables in the beer garden. President Minx commented that we also do have the liquor license and the dram shop insurance.

Carnival *(Paul Yaras / Pete Witko)*

Pete said we still need to do a site survey. Ed Dane from North American Midway is coming back on Thursday. The background checks on the carnival employees will be done on Thursday. Pete said the megaband link is now on the website, so people can purchase megabands online. He added that megabands won't be sold on July 4th, but they will be sold through Friday at the event, and if someone wants to purchase a megaband on Saturday, they can do so. People can also purchase daily wristbands online for a \$5 discount.

President Minx said that the carnival company will have a tally every night or first thing in the morning so we can see ticket sales. Pete noted that he had provided John Pietron with pictures of the carnival rides for our website. President Minx said that we need the posters to put up all around the Village. He asked Pete to check with Ed on Thursday about the posters. We've spent \$500 of the carnival company's \$1,500 donation for advertising and so far, we just have four large carnival signs up.

Children's Activities *(Jeff Wait)*

Jeff said he was all set with the children's activities.

Entertainment *(Dan DiMaria / Katie Shimanski)*

Katie said that all the contracts are done, and the committee is now working on stage marketing and signage. There will be a scrim along the top with the Morton Grove Days logo, the Village's logo, and the Park District logo. The scrim on one side will feature Moretti's, the stage sponsor. The scrim on the other side will feature the Doughboy. This will be a larger stage than we've had in the past. Katie said that the Niles Symphony will play prior to the opening ceremony, and Megan Keith will sing the national anthem. The committee has someone who will provide all the sound for the stage, the parade announcers, and the fireworks. The sound will be better than it has been in years past!

Festival Operations *(Paul Tobin / Jon Kobus)*

Paul Tobin said all the contracts are signed. He said we need to provide a \$1,000 deposit check to Indestructo and we'll also need a check for the ice man.

Finance – *(Jim Karp)*

No report.

Fireworks *(Bill Grear)*

Bill said that he, Bill Porter, and Greg Jayne would be meeting with the Mad Bomber tomorrow. The fireworks contract this year is for \$18,000.

Fundraising

Sponsors: Ed Ramos was not in attendance. President Minx said that Chasers had pledged \$1,500 and L&R Mortgage \$505. Ralph Czerwinski said we should be getting the Moretti's check on Thursday.

Eat & Earn: Ann reported that we made \$303 from the Culvers event. The next Eat & Earn is coming up on June 23 at China Chef. They will donate 15% of the proceeds for the day, but patrons must bring in the flier. People can print out the flier; there is a link on the Days website and the Village's website, and hard copies are available at Village Hall.

Merchandise: Rich Block was not in attendance. Mike Weitzel asked what group would be selling the "glow" items on July 4th. Jim Karp said it would either be Morton Grove Baseball or Morton Grove Soccer; as soon as he finds out, he will let Mike know.

Publicity *(Maria Toth / John Pietron)*

Maria said that we are updating our website and sending out tweets on a regular basis. She's working on the brochure, which will be printed on June 27th. She said that she and John would start promoting wristbands and megabands now.

Restaurants *(Jackie Liston)*

In Jacky's absence, President Minx noted that "Fit to Be Fried" had cancelled, so Randy at Village Inn stepped up and he will be bringing more food. Mr. Czerwinski said that Moretti's will be expanding their food offerings too. President Minx said that Randy will pay a little more for more space. Culver's has definitely committed. President Minx said that apparently, Fit to Be Fried didn't feel that they had made enough money last year.

Security *(Mike Weitzel)*

Mike announced that this would be one of his last Commission meetings and said it had been a pleasure working with the Commission. He said the security plans would be completed by Monday. He said he's still working on trying to get a flyover for the start of the Parade. Mike said the Morton Grove is again coordinating with Skokie regarding traffic on Oakton Street; it went well last year. He also inquired about the "safety lanes" in Harrer Park on the 4th. Jeff Wait said that Greg Jayne will put them up on the 4th.

Volunteers *(Eric & Melanie Brodsky)*

Eric said we're up to about 30 volunteers now. He said we could definitely use more, especially for the Beer Garden entrance and beer ticket sales. He added that there were about 30 past volunteers who have not yet responded, and he's working on them. Barb Novick volunteered to do beer ticket sales. Eric said he would send a confirmation to all the volunteers, noting the days/hours of their shifts, and would also invite all the volunteers to the volunteer dinner, which will be Wednesday, July 27.

Old Business

Jeff Wait asked about VIP parking. President Minx said we've used the MB Bank parking lot and the Parkview School parking lot in the past for VIP parking. Jeff asked if there was a list of VIPs eligible to park at either location. President Minx said that people need to have a placard to be able to park in the Parkview School lot; with the bank, spaces cannot be "reserved," so it's first-come, first-served. Security will be in the Parkview School area by 2:00 pm on July 4th, and there will be horses with signs up noting that there is restricted parking there.

New Business/Next Meeting

President Minx noted that the Chamber's Golf Outing, and the MCC Interfaith service are both going on today, which explains why a number of people are absent this evening. He said there will be a meeting on the carnival grounds at 6:30 pm on June 28th, and asked everyone to meet near the Civic Center patio.

Adjournment

Paul Tobin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Weitzel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Cousar