

CITY OF BELLEVUE
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2019
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Conference Room 1E-112

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Wilson – Parks
Andy Heider – Parks
Dean Harm – Fire
Glen Albright – Fire
Michelle Kinberg – Emergency Management
Chris Nygren – Police
Claude Iosso – City Manager’s Office
Ben Wright – Transportation
Yuriana Garcia – Diversity Advantage
Glenn Bartolome – Metro Transit
Mike Ogliore – Business Representative Downtown
Chris Dunham – Business Representative West

OTHERS PRESENT: Imane Elmesbahi, Parks

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chair Wilson who presided.

2. COMMUNICATIONS: Written and Oral

Chair Wilson noted that following the Committee’s meeting on April 11 he heard from the organizer for All In For Autism event who was contacted by the Norwood Neighborhood Association, about managing a 5K race. He said he reached out to the Association and discovered that they wanted to hold the event on July 4. He said he informed them that given the other events on that day, including another 5K, the city was not able to provide the support services to help with any road closures. He said they have since submitted a route map and have agreed to operate the race using the rules of the road. Next year the group will be encouraged to choose a different weekend for their event.

Chair Wilson said the City Council was recently approached by a group from India wanting to put on a cultural festival in mid-August during their Independence Day. He said he contacted the event organizer and learned of their intent to have a main stage hosting different groups. No city park was available on selected date(s). One option floated was to hold the event on a Friday night starting mid-afternoon but no application has yet been submitted. He encouraged them to plan ahead for holding the event in 2020.

As the city has grown in diversity, more and more cultural events are being discussed and proposed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Harm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wright and the motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the April 11, 2019, meeting minutes as submitted was made by Ms. Dunham. The motion was seconded by Mr. Iosso and the motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ Routing and Location Subcommittee Report

Chair Wilson said the subcommittee met on May 7 and discussed a few issues with the staff. With regard to the proposed New Year's Eve fireworks show by Ascend Prime Steak & Sushi, Land Use staff reviewed the proposal and said they would not allow the event to happen as a private event. The organizer may yet try to make the event public, but as things stand the event is on hold.

6. OLD BUSINESS

❖ Tabled Events

Chair Wilson reiterated that the Ascend Prime Steak & Sushi New Year's Eve fireworks event remains tabled.

With regard to the 5-50K Run at Lake Hills Greenbelt which occurred on May 5, Chair Wilson noted that the Committee had never taken action saying the event did not require a special event permit. He allowed that it was odd to take action after the event but asked the Committee for a vote.

A motion not to require the 5-50K Run at Lake Hills Greenbelt to have a special event permit was made by Ms. Dunham. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ogliore and the motion carried unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

❖ Post-Event Evaluation: Kelsey Creek Farm Sheep Shearing

Ms. Kinberg pointed out that the event date was listed as being 2013 and said the what went well section was simply a restatement of the event overview. She suggested the organizer should be given to understand that the Committee does in fact read the post-event evaluations.

Chair Wilson observed that in another part of the evaluation 2014 was listed as the year and that for 2020 they put down the wrong date. He said the challenges the event faces are the same every

year, namely traffic flow and parking in the neighborhood. Shuttles to and from the event operated from Bannerwood ballpark. The number of complaints has dropped off decidedly over the last ten years.

❖ Post-Event Evaluation: All In For Autism

Chair Wilson said all went smoothly for the event and there were no issues. The evaluation indicates the event has difficulty in getting the number of volunteers they have been asked to get. He said he would have the organizer work with police and right-of-way ahead of the 2020 event on where volunteers need to be placed along the route. If the determination is made that they need the higher number of volunteers, the event will be required to supply them.

Chair Wilson commented that the Rotary Club partners with Ted Mittlestadt, head of the city's youth and family fitness division. The organizer contacted Mr. Mittlestadt about a gentleman who during the event was walking around with guns holstered on his hips. While allowed under open carry and nothing was done illegally, the organizer and people at the park were concerned. The police were called and everything was taken care of. The concern is that while there are plenty of police during the event, they are all out on the course, and the question was raised about having an officer assigned to the race village during the race for security reasons. He said he would talk with Sgt. Shovlin about that.

It was noted that the organizer is looking to relocate the race village for 2020 to the concrete plaza next to the pond. That would free up the far parking lot for vendors, volunteers and the general public. That lot is heavily used by the ADA community because of the inspiration playground. Parks has been working to provide electrical connections at the plaza.

❖ Comments/Follow-up

Chair Wilson remarked that July will be a very busy season for event. Staff will soon begin having internal meetings with the Office of Emergency Management, police and fire regarding the 4th of July events and the arts fair events.

Answering a question asked by Ms. Dunham, Chair Wilson said REI plans a three-day grand opening on Memorial Day weekend at Enatai Beach Park. They are not anticipating large crowds. There will be activities including a band and games. At Meydenbauer Bay Park there will only be a few pop-up tents with information on REI events in keeping with the quiet nature of that park. REI will be running the canoe and kayak rentals at both parks.

7. NEXT MEETING

❖ June 13, 2019

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:06 a.m.