



Wildwood Celebration Commission Minutes

Meeting Date:

- April 7, 2021
- 5:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

- Libby Wilson
- Sharon Hutson
- Karen Stevens
- Cory Lawson
- Patricia Ward
- Council Liaison, Joe Garritano
- Gary Crews, Staff Liaison
- Susan Siebert, Chair

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Siebert opened the meeting at 5:16 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. Roll Call

A roll call of members was conducted, and the following individuals were in attendance, via Zoom Webinar Platform:

Commission Members:

Libby Wilson
Sharon Hutson
Karen Stevens
Cory Lawson
Patricia Ward
Susan Siebert, Chair
Joe Garritano, Council Liaison
Gary Crews, Staff Liaison

Absent Members: Commission Members Vicki Helfrey and Jaclyn Tripp

Other Officials & City Staff:

Sgt. Brad Wendling, St. Louis County Police – Wildwood Precinct
Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks

III. Approval of Minutes from the March 3, 2021 Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to approve the March 3, 2021 meeting minutes. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Siebert.

IV. Public Comments

No public comment.

V. Discussion of Scheduling and Logistics for the Combined 2021 Celebrate Wildwood and Art Festival Event

a. COVID – 19 Considerations and Updates

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised Commission Members that, with three (3) vaccines being available and the opening of vaccine eligibility to almost all individuals, chances appear very positive for anyone wanting a vaccine can have such by the end of June. This situation makes the end of September even a more encouraging choice for the Celebrate Wildwood Event. He did note infection rates will be closely monitored relative to recent concerns of dangerous COVID variants gaining attention across the nation. A thorough memorandum was provided to each Commission Member for review.

b. Update on Event Components

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised the Commission of the considerable accomplishments the Members and Department have made with the organization of the Celebrate Wildwood Event. Most noteworthy at this time was the scheduling of all the musical entertainment for the event, to include Teddy McCreary during the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. He also noted that registration has held relatively steady with seventeen (17) *artists*. The Commission was advised that letters would be sent to *fine crafters*, who have participated in past events on April 8, 2021. Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich noted for the Commission, given the Celebrate Wildwood Event is still basically five (5) months away, interest appears to be strong.

c. Presentation of Event Grounds Layout

The **event grounds layout** has not changed, since the last Commission Meeting. The entire event is planned in front of Wildwood City Hall and on the future Village Green Property, just west of City Hall. The initial layout indicated that approximately ninety-two (92) booths could be made available (which includes food booths), in addition to numerous *static display booths*, which would need to be removed by 4:30 p.m. Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich did explain that arrangements are being planned to make access to the new *Village Green Area* more easily accessible with the clearing of vegetation and the installation of a culvert allowing foot and vehicle traffic to be accomplished without hazard. He advised the Commission that event *visibility* is still a concern, and suggestions are still anxiously being accepted. The Commission had several questions relative to the scouting activities and whether its regulations concerning COVID were going to allow their participation. Ken McGohan noted, at the March 2021 meeting, they event would be discussed for the first time at an upcoming scouting meeting. Comments would follow after this first organizational gathering. The Commission was advised inquiries would be made and Ken McGohan should be able to update the Commission at the next meeting.

d. Other Items and Next Steps

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised arrangements are underway for the fireworks display, noting they had been made before to setup at the *Village Green Area*, but never implemented. No *problems* are anticipated.

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised the Commission that Big River Running Company has been able to schedule its participation to time the Wildwood Greenway 5K that will open the Celebrate Wildwood Event.

VI. Other Business for Consideration

The donation of fifty dollars (\$50.00), or an amount that would allow the Commission to support a five-hundred-dollar (\$500.00) sponsorship banner, was briefly discussed. Interested participants were asked to send their fifty-dollar (\$50.00) donation to Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, payable to the City of Wildwood.

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised the Commission that flyers for the Celebrate Wildwood Event would be presented at the June meeting for its review. PDF versions would be emailed before that meeting.

There was discussion on the start time of future meetings and the need for *flexibility* to insure maximum attendance.

The Commission was informed Commission Member Ward would Chair the next meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.

VII. Next Meeting Date

Consensus was reached for the next Commission meeting date, which will be on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Hutson, to adjourn the meeting. Having no further business to discuss, and hearing no objections, a voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Siebert. The meeting concluded at 6:20 p.m.