



# Wildwood Celebration Commission Minutes

## Meeting Date:

- August 2, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

## Commission Members Present:

- Joe Garritano
- Ashley Slauter
- Kirsten Schultz
- Karen Jehling
- Lezli Jones
- Deborah Coleman
- Kristin Naeger, Staff Liaison

### I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Co-Chair Garritano called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested roll call be taken.

### II. Roll Call

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

#### Commission Members:

Co-Chair Council Member Joe Garritano

Co-Chair Ashley Slauter

Kirsten Schultz

Karen Jehling

Lezli Jones

Deborah Coleman

Kristin Naeger, Staff Liaison

Absent Members Commissioner Hutson, Commissioner Siebert, Officer Deghelder, and Sergeant Donald Jacquin.

#### Other Officials & City Staff:

Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks

Stacy Chanski, Recreation Specialist

### III. Approval of Minutes from the July 6, 2023, Meeting of the Commission

Motion was made by Commissioner Schultz seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve the meeting minutes of July 6, 2023. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Co-Chair Garritano.

### IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## **V. Discussion of the 2023 Celebrate Wildwood Event**

### **a. Parade Components for 2023: "Wildwood – City of Parks and Trails"**

Director Vujnich began the discussion by mentioning that most items have been completed; through Officer Deghelder, the Principia School, is bringing its drum corp, cheerleaders, some of its student body, and its mascot; Contemporary will provide the bagpipers; the Red and Black Brass Band will perform; Officer DeGhelder still has feelers out for additional bands; there should be more interest in the parade, as we get closer to the date; as in prior years; Schnucks Wildwood Crossing will be the parade start; Moolah Mounted Patrol and mini cars are registered; a reminder will be sent to parade participants, if they would like to give out candy, to spread out the distribution, as many parade watchers are on Taylor Road; a parade tip sheet with a few bullet points will be sent out a week ahead of time; and staff will review and update the current parade rules.

### **b. Promotion and Advertising for 2023 Event**

Director Vujnich discussed the availability of posters, postcards and yard signs for the Commission Members to distribute; the sponsorship banners are being worked on now; will have event information at the Back-to-School Party; West Newsmagazine is working on the pull-out section for its September issue; the Gazette with the Celebrate Wildwood cover article is planned for end of August; the scavenger hunt is ready to go and starts on August 23; and the bingo winner t-shirt was revealed to the Commission and staff will use it to encourage participation.

### **c. Update of Activities, Commitments, and Actions**

Superintendent Naeger discussed the new updates to the task sheet. The Commission suggested a Parade Marshall gift be presented to the Grand Marshals, with the idea of a sash as a keepsake. Staff will investigate gift options.

#### **i. Status of Sponsorships**

Director Vujnich announced the goal was reached for sponsorships with over \$30,000 in monetary and in-kind donations having been provided (to date); after the event this year, suggested to take a good look at an overhaul on the sponsorship program; the developer is proceeding forward with the project on the current event grounds and the Village Green most likely will not be ready for next year, so the City will seek direction from the Commission on where to hold the event next year; suggestions included Lafayette High School (alcohol prohibited), split between Lafayette High School and Passiglia's (issue crossing Highway 109), Babler State Park, Community Park, or St. Louis Community College (under construction for the next 18-24 months).

#### **ii. Volunteer Schedule for Event**

Superintendent Naeger requested signups for volunteers and an itinerary will be provided at the next meeting.

#### **iii. Initial Layout of Venue Grounds**

The draft layout, which is similar to last year's layout, was provided to the Commission.

### **d. Other Considerations**

## **VI. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**

## **VII. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Slauter, seconded by Commissioner Coleman, 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 Co-Chair Garritano. The meeting concluded at 6:50 p.m.