

SPECIAL EVENTS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Present: Wayne Eichelkraut, Jani Eichelkraut, Don Gillette, Peggy Schneider, Phyllis Revell, Mike Dougherty, Elaine Baker, Jim Reilly, and Nancy Stisser.

Absent: Joyce Kellogg and Heidy Eisert.

Minutes

Minutes were read and approved on a motion by Don and second by Phyllis.

Funding Request

Wayne presented a request to allocate funds toward portable toilets for Ottawa First's Oktoberfest, a three-day event.

Action: An allocation of \$1,500 was approved on a motion by Jani and second by Phyllis.

Financial Report

Nancy presented the 2013-2014 financial report. SEC received an allocation of \$42,500 from the city -- \$2,500 more than last year. The line item for July 4 fireworks increased by the same amount, up to \$7,500 from \$5,000 last year. The \$42,500 will fund at least nine events throughout the next year. Additional requests for funds will be reviewed as they come up.

Correspondence

A letter from a resident who had enjoyed Music in the Park was acknowledged.

Old Business

Nancy has not received a definitive answer about Alaina Rivers' status on the committee, and Wayne has agreed to bring the issue before the City Council to establish her status. City employees are not permitted to vote on committee issues, and their involvement on appointed committees is limited – but since Alaina coordinates the FOL parade, the committee feels she should join Nancy, Heidy and Commissioner Wayne on the committee.

Music in the Park

Problems with the 2013 series, particularly on Patriotic and Gospel nights, were discussed. Patriotic Night's performers entertained for less than the contracted 75 minutes, while Gospel Night seemed disorganized and below par. Both events are run by other groups but funded and held under SEC auspices, so the SEC's reputation for quality entertainment is at stake.

Action: Both organizers will be asked to meet next year to discuss SEC's expectations, or SEC may reconsider its funding allocation.

In a related issue, Peggy questioned why many events from Morris or LaSalle were listed in a Heritage Corridor summer visitors guide, but Music in the Park was not. Even the inaugural Rock on the Block concerts were listed there. Nancy will ask Julie Johnson at