

Closter Improvement Commission 2/24/15

Attendance: Andrew Albaumb; Vicky Amitai; Iris Barad; Ann Brewster; Maria Kim; Janet Morrow; Eli Nachmany; and Juana Trejo-Reyes. Prospective members Susan Iaffate and Kevin Morrow were also in attendance. Susan Lam is considering joining this commission at a later date. Later in the meeting Ted of The Barn arrived. Mayor John Glidden attended and addressed the commission.

Though the commission is delighted that there is interest from people to join our group, membership is limited. We need two alternates and one person from the Historic Commission.

Finances: Ann updated the commission on the procedure needed to procure a purchase requisition. In the past there were problems with monies being used for CIC use towards other uses. This improved procedure will help us keep better track of our expenses and available money. Further, Ann reported that we have \$1,324 in a Trust Account for CIC which had its origins when Tina Stratton raised money from a CIC function. 2015 Budget approval is expected in March.

Hoedown Update: Eli told us that he had not yet received a reply from his emails to Rudy's or Isabella's asking for their participation in the proposed Hoedown Music event. He has been in touch with Jim Ottenger to discuss possible dates for this program. The hoedown will have a country-music feel with dancing, music and varied food. We discussed charging \$75/per table to food vendors. There was talk about the need for each vendor to get temporary approval by our fire department. Eli will clarify whether this is indeed necessary. Right now we are looking at late June after graduation to hold this event. Memorial field does have speakers, but we would need to secure a local band to perform. Andy offered to assist Eli in contacting restaurants for their participation.

Spring flowers: Iris will contact George to discuss spring flowers and report to the commission afterwards.

Uncommon Craft Update: We reviewed last year's Craft show at The Barn and looked at our expenses to reconsider whether CIC wants to continue to promote this event again. CIC requested \$1,000 for our budget to offset some of the cost of running this event. Ted participated in this discussion and said the Chamber of Commerce helped offset the cost as well. Ted said he was at this meeting to find our level of interest. CIC would offer putting up signs, help set up tables, promote the event thru advertising and help with the operating costs as we did last time. Maria Dansinger of the Demerest Cultural and Arts School will orchestrate this event, as she had done last year. Her students and teachers will display their crafts and offer free pottery wheel use. Ted asked the CIC to share costs with Chamber of Commerce 50/50. Vicky suggested that we commit to \$500.

New members were inducted.

Memorial Day Parade: Mayor Glidden spoke and thanked everyone for their time and commitment to this commission. He voiced that he got a better feeling of our group by attending this meeting. His purpose in attending was to ask CIC if their could suggest ways to increase interest and attendance in our upcoming May 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Parade, as attendance has been waning. Vicki suggested a "robo-call" to homes (cost \$200) to remind them of the event. It was also suggested that the PTA send notices to families as a reminder. A further suggestion was to decorate the stores to augment interest. The Mayor said that he's working on getting vintage cars to be part of the parade. Vicky said that we would discuss this at our next meeting and report back to him regarding our ideas to make this year's parade more engaging.

Ann showed us a stone that Wiggers Landscape had designed as a commemorative Borough of Closter.