

Crab Minutes, March 14, 2024

Meeting called to order, 7:12pm

CRAB: Nathan Gerdes, Rick Ransom, Sudhanshu Sinha, Chalya Lar, Dea Zugby

Others: Melissa Ehrenreich, Leon Schachter, Tim George (staff liaison)

Melissa Ehrenreich – Discussion of the movie – *Join or Die*

- Super volunteers in Greenbelt, small but strong cadre
- Hard because we are always reaching the same people
- Need a better way to recruit new folks into Greenbelt, new ideas, new groups
- Film – What Happened to Volunteerism – if you don't do it, it doesn't happen
- Tried to do Cookies on the Bridge for the middle school, couldn't find any volunteers or anyone to help
- Volunteerism is a key part of civic engagement
- Join or Die, it's about loneliness and civic engagement. Meetings are now antagonistic
- Tribute to Ric Gordon
- Could cost \$250-\$1,000 to film
- Panel discussion afterwards

RR – what do you mean be sponsor?

- Present the idea to Council
- Get people there
- Pull together a panel for discussion

SS –

- Does the City government have another place to show it?
- How would we advertise? – City would do a media blitz

TG – we own the theatre and can show it for the MPAA license fee

Continued discussion.....

CL – Thanks for coming

- Likes the idea of promoting and supporting volunteerism
- Fliers, other promotions to reach city-wide
- Need to reach the diverse groups in the community, especially West Greenbelt

ME – trailer is on line but the movie is not streaming

- Phone tree, volunteer fair
- Tap into our connections
- Invite keynote participants (Surgeon General? Other subject matter experts)

Leon Schachter

- Volunteerism is frustrating, was interviewed 6 weeks ago, wondering where his application is
- Mayor suggested he serve on an Advisory Board to get engaged
- He's a member of the Golden Age Club

RR – Groups needing volunteers? Can we have a list?

- To ME, is she the one to contact for coordination ideas?

SS – who do you think will come?

ME – likely the older generation. Documentaries are not big with youth

- Provide babysitting
- Get creative
- August 28 is National Volunteer Day

RR – put it out to a vote so we can seek Council buy-in

TG – coordinate ME with our PIO, CARES, Rec, etc to talk about

ME – CRAB project where ME is the super-volunteer?

RR – No, she would lead and CRAB would support

Welcome Sign Discussion

RR – introduced his proposal

LS – does a multilingual sign discourage folks from learning English

CL – Mainly for new people into the environment and welcoming visitors to our community

RR – engage the arts community to illustrate this as well as in words. Represent the cultures in Greenbelt with images.

- Does anyone want to contribute or should we vote?
- Motion go move forward? NG/SS vote: 5/0

Discussion of the Recognition Group

RR – introduced the idea

General discussion.....

CL – volunteered to join the committee

Approval of the Minutes

SS- minutes are fine

RR – Minutes are fine

CL – Minutes are fine

NG – Looks good, although he wasn't in CRAB

Move: CL/SS vote: 5/0

Ear to the Ground

RR – introduced the topic

No comments....

CL –

Adjourned, 8:30pm