

NCH Recreation Commission – 2022 Team Kickoff Meeting

April 19, 2022 @ 7:00 PM (Virtual)

Attendees:

- Present: Anneliese Clear (new Rec Director for NCH), Michele Miller, Carla Belcher, Kimberley Stewart
- Absent: Charlene Meyer
- Optional (Absent): Mary Jo Zorb (Tree Board); Marjorie Anderson (Council Dev & Rec Committee Chair)

Topics of Discussion

- Introductions – Nearly all members of the commission are long-time residents of NCH.
 - o Anneliese is the new Rec Director
 - o Michele, Kimberley, Charlene are NCH school district employees
 - o Kimberley is also a local business owner (Arabesque Dance Academy)
 - o Carla is a community volunteer – community garden, WeThrive, Tree Board
- Set Meeting Schedule – the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm worked for everyone. Virtual OK.
 - o Dates for 2022: May 17; June 21; July 19; Aug 16; Sept 20; Oct 18; Nov 15; Dec 20
 - o Between meetings, we will use a group collaboration app such as Teams, GroupMe or Signal to keep everyone in the loop on who is working on what. Teams is preferred, since it is internal.
- Upcoming Events & Activities
 - o All events are (or will be) listed on the NCH website's new Parks & Recreation pages
 - o Community Clean Up Day
 - o Arbor Day & Tree Planting – will also have seed planting activities for kids; DAV will cook out
 - o Memorial Day Wknd Parade
 - We all reminisced about past parades, and brainstormed participants we may invite this year: the Shriners; local school bands; cheerleaders; school sports teams; scouts; school clubs; etc.
 - Kimberley will make a flyer that can be shared & posted.
 - It seems like this event is in competition with the West College Hill Neighborhood Association parade, which takes place on Memorial Day itself. Many participants do both. This may be a partnership opportunity for the future, since it is a resource-heavy event.
 - THIS YEAR: Change the end of the parade route so it is safer. Currently, "walkers" (including children) must cross five lanes of Hamilton Ave on foot to get back to Rose's parking lot after the end of the parade. Either have traffic control at Hamilton Ave crossing to let walkers cross safely, **OR** end the parade in the NCH school parking lots & let parents/caregivers pick up from there, so no one needs to cross Hamilton Ave at all. Blalock is point of contact for the school parking lot.
 - NEXT YEAR: Add an after-party/festival/vendors/food trucks/music after the parade & ceremony. Almost every other popular parade in the area does this.
 - NEXT YEAR: Charge for-profit businesses & politicians to participate in the parade. Again, almost every other parade in the area does this. Proceeds fund the following year's parade expenses, or are used to subsidize youth & community programming throughout the year. Anneliese is working on a larger funding model proposal for the Council Committee's consideration, and is including this as a potential revenue source.
 - o NEW IDEA: Juneteenth Jam – (via Michele) - Outdoor event; 3:3 basketball; etc.
 - o National Night Out – August – Gets community & PD/public safety together in non-confrontational way. Thinking about having games, touch-a-truck, "Safety Town", etc.
 - o Headin' for the Hill Car Show – Labor Day

- Programs & Classes
 - Lack of suitable facilities to host programs & classes is a big issue. NCH Admin Building (formerly a school) is not an option due to water damage in the western half of the building.
 - Will need to partner with local businesses &/or school for space.
 - The Senior Center is \$250 to rent, which is cost-prohibitive.
 - RW Construction (Rodrigo Williams) owns the old Gears nursery/greenhouse building & warehouse behind it
 - Life Spring sometimes hosts events – might also be willing to host programs/classes
 - Blalock is the point of contact for NCH school district buildings.
 - Patricia Baas is point of contact for NCH Chamber of Commerce (Business Association).
 - Flock Sports Center may be an option. They have a bar onsite, so we could host adults only programs/events there, and use proceeds to fund room rental for youth programs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM