Town of Sturbridge

*Special Events Committee*

**Meeting Minutes**

 Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present**:
Lisa Beaudin, Chair
Kerry Carey

Mary Dowling

John Rice

Sandra Nasto

**Absent:**

**Staff Present**:

Terry Masterson, Economic Development/Tourism Coordinator

**Meeting Open**

Lisa Beaudin opened the meeting at 5:37 and welcomed everyone.

**Minutes**

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2023

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|  **Motion** | **To Accept Minutes for July 25, 2023** |
| Moved and Seconded: | BY: M Dowling Second: L Beaudin |
| Vote:  | YES: Nasto, Carey, Rice, Beaudin, Dowling  |
| Outcome:: | Approved 5-0 |

**Review of HOTB Race Plans**

* Terry reported that he had inquired with the SPD if Rocky could attend the Race and he will be there!
* Terry also reported that he had reached out to the Worcester Woo Sox about their mascot as well.
* John reported that the Race had 34 registrants with $900 in race revenues
* Lisa suggested contacting Polar Beverages for participation and support.
* Lisa inquired about Veteran Services vendors with John reporting that they would not be attending.

**Blue Zone Community Focus**

Lisa briefed everyone about a book and a philosophy that stresses quality of life through nutrition and close knit familial and neighborly connections. These factors have been proven to elongate life and increase the quality of life in specific regions in the World that adhere to them.

**SEC Membership**

Lisa and Kerry discussed their considerations relative to departing from the SEC at some point. Mary suggested that perhaps the SEC should consider modifying the membership guidelines for the SEC from being tied to other boards and committees to a more open form of membership.

 **New Event Discussion**

Lisa opened up the floor for continued discussion about sponsoring a new event . Kerry suggested an informal dance event with a goal of mixing, mingling and networking. Kerry also suggested that a new event does not necessarily need to be charitably focused. March was suggested as a good time to consider. Lisa affirmed Kerry’s vision by saying that an event could bring residents together who have or have not met. A site could be selected with a band or a DJ along with an interactive game that would encourage introductions and positive interactions. Lisa encouraged all to give this potential event further analysis for discussion at the October meeting.

**Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the SEC would be Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 5:30PM.

**Adjournment**

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| **Motion:** | **To Adjourn. At 6:42 pm** |
|  | BY: M Dowling SECOND: L Beaudin |
| Vote Record: | Yes: Beaudin, Carey, Dowling, Rice , Nasto  |
| Outcome: | Approved 5-0 |