

Community Development Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on

April 15, 2025

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W. 151st Street
Village Community Room**

1. Call to Order

The 6:30 p.m. meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chair Steilen after a quorum was established.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Members present: Chair Sue Steilen, Vice-Chair Dan Kenney, Laura Elkins, Ken Marcin (arrived late), and John McGary.

Members absent: Jody Olivieri

Also Present: Staff Liaison Brittany Parra, Events Director Dan Waddick, Events Coordinator Amy Blank, EMA Director/Code Enforcement Ron Kus

4. Amendments to the Agenda

No amendments.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Vice-Chair Dan Kenney made a motion to approve the agenda. Member Elkins seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Approval of Minutes

a. January 28, 2025, Minutes

Vice-Chair Dan Kenney made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Member Elkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

8. Old Business

a. **Website Update**

Coordinator Blank stated that she spoke with the vendor of our website, Civic Engage in regards to reconfiguring the calendar. It was also said there are widgets that could be added for outside community events, exclusively- and that is her plan moving forward. The website re-design isn't possible until the contract is up.

b. **Channel 6/Social Media Ideas**

Chair Steilen inquired about the status of the sound of Channel 6, Staff Liaison Brittany Parra said Xfinity fixed the problem. Parra also stated that she had some loose ideas for the spring/summer and she had just finished the Shady Oaks dinner dance photos, and is looking forward to covering the Shady Oaks cleanup on May

3. Parra also suggested a video on the new trustees for a simple light-hearted video. Director Waddick asked the committee to give their input on how to handle promotional items and distance of ownership when it comes to social media and businesses. Chair Steilen stated that we need a policy to make decisions. Vice-Chair Kenney asked about featuring residents, people on social media (neighbor of the week). Coordinator Blank suggested a nomination form on the website, and that there would have to be some sort of selection process.

c. **25th anniversary**

Coordinator Blank asked what we should do in April of next year for the big anniversary year, some ideas she suggested were a party, a dinner dance, a gala, a picnic. Chair Steilen said you could do multiple things, and Vice-Chair Kenney agreed. Chair Steilen suggested tying in the number 25 into our prizes or events next year.

d. **Volunteer Appreciation**

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will have food from Front Row, prizes and recognition for volunteer of the year and longest serving volunteer.

e. **Community Garage Sale**

Community Garage Sale is June 13th and 14th. Director Waddick stated that they are working on signage and doing banners, and printed material with the Lockport High School students, at cost. There was also a discussion on utilizing pinmaps.net. Member Marcin said the only complaint he heard last year was the event wasn't well advertised at major intersections. Chair Steilen mentioned more of an eye popping design for advertising. Vice-Chair Kenney said perhaps use a wide variety of signage. Director Kus talked about sign ordinances.

f. **Food Drive Update**

Director Waddick said it was ok, the work vehicle was full and the people at the pantry said it was a good haul. Chair Steilen said next year at the shred event we can advertise better to bring canned goods. Vice-Chair Kenney recapped the shred event and said it was successful and props to Ron Kus and team. The possibility of blending the hazardous waste event and shred event was talked about as well.

9. New Business

a. **Tulips & Gnomes**

Coordinator Blank shared that the tulips and gnomes are sold out (50) and installation will be April 30th, there was a waitlist too.

b. **Spring Newsletter**

Coordinator Blank shared an update on featured items such as ribbon cuttings, new trustees, events, mosquito abatement, wastewater treatment plant and welcomed any ideas from the committee as she does not have much content.

c. Homer Fest Participation

Chair Steilen asked Director Waddick what he will need from the committee, the conclusion was the committee will be ready to help with anything including promotion.

d. Parade/Family Fun Day

A new route was discussed, trying to avoid the walkers' delay like last year. Chair Steilen talked about utilizing the highway township highway department building for extra room. Director Kus talked about using the parking lot for walkers at the library. Timing was also discussed, to make sure people aren't standing around waiting for the event to start after the parade ends. Member Marcin mentioned the large gaps in the parade last year. Coordinator Blank would like a bouncy house, to keep everyone occupied. Vice-Chair Kenney also said a band wouldn't be a bad idea. The main issue discussed was trying to get food trucks thru a crowd for staging. Remote control cars and a track were an idea for Family Fun Day, however Coordinator Blank discussed the new requirements for insurance. Chair Steilen said these matters need to be brought to the attention of the board, and Village Manager.

10. Announcements/Committee Members Communication

None.

11. Adjournment

Vice-Chair Kenney motioned to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. with a second by Member J McGary. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Brittany Parra
Community Outreach Coordinator
Village of Homer Glen