



RICK KAHEN COMMISSION FOR RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

April 27, 2022

7:00pm call to order
Buffalo Grove Village Hall

I. Welcome & Call to Order at 7:00pm

II. Roll Call

- a. **Members Present:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Leo Njongmeta, Allie Zalay
- b. **Members Absent:** Donna Garfield, , Debbie Verson, Larry Sweica, David Morton, Mark Weiner
- c. **Trustee Liaisons Present:** Andy Stein, Les Ottenheimer
- d. **Present:** Staff Liaison Evan Michel
- e. **Guest Speaker(s) Present:** Representative(s) from the Wheeling Township 708 Board (Hugh Brady / Arlen Gould)

III. Approval of Minutes with Changes: November 17, 2021

- a. **Motion:** Marty Sussman
- b. **Second:** Jack Shapiro
- c. **Opposed:** None
- d. **Abstain:** Leo Njongmeta
- e. **In Favor:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Allie Zalay
- f. ***Motion approved***

IV. Approval of Minutes with Changes: January 26, 2022

- a. **Motion:** Beth Shapiro
- b. **Second:** Lexi Robinson
- c. **Opposed:** None
- d. **Abstain:** Leo Njongmeta
- e. **In Favor:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Allie Zalay
- f. ***Motion approved***

V. Chair report

- a. Attendance requirement reminder - 75% minimum
 - o This is a requirement from the Village President and Board of Trustees
- b. Commission regular meeting dates (4th Wednesday of the month is the standard)
 - i. Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 23, Apr. 27, May 25, June 22, July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23, Dec.28
 - ii. Suggested meeting date changes: from Aug 24 to Aug 17, from Nov. 23 to Nov 16, from Dec. 28 to Dec. 21
 - iii. Motion to adjust the meeting dates for August, November, and December
 - o **Motion:** Lexi Robinson
 - o **Second:** Marty Sussman
 - o **Opposed:** None

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- **Abstain:** None
 - **In Favor:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Allie Zalay, Leo Njongmeta
 - **Motion approved**
 - c. Commission yearly events; 2022 dates:
 - i. Senior Expo Friday, April 22nd
 - ii. BG Days Thursday September 1st – Monday September 5th
 - Staffing and driving the Courtesy shuttle for the entire event
 - a. Each committee member that is able to drive to pick up at least two, two-hour shifts
 - b. Must take the course prior to being able to drive
 - i. Once you have taken the course, you are set – no need to renew
 - Buddy Baseball
 - Participating in the Parade (TBD)
 - Fun and Food
 - iii. Fire Department Open House Saturday September 17th
 - iv. Partnering with the Buffalo Grove Rotary for Buddy Bowling Thursday October 20, 2022
- VI. Trustee(s) report** (Les Ottenheimer / Andy Stein)
- a. From the BG Days Committee – there is a question about whether or not we will have a parade – looking at routes that could be used safely given the construction plan on Bernard Drive (this will go for two years)
 - i. We cannot adjust the timing of the construction, the funding for the project is not coming from the Village AND the funds must be used within a certain time
- VII. Staff Liaison report** (Evan Michel)
- a. We have nametags!
- VIII. Sub-Committee report**
- a. BG Days Parade (TBD)
 - i. Regular parade route will be under construction.
 - The BG Days Parade Chair (Rodney) and the Village are working together to identify a potential different parade route. Outcome will be discussed and decided on at the next BG Days meeting in May
 - ii. If the parade is a 'go', does the Commission want to participate in the parade this year? – **will vote on this at the May meeting**
 - If we do choose to participate, what truck will we use?
 - iii. Commissioner Verson has stepped down as the Chair for the Commission float and parade involvement this year
 - Opportunity for a Commissioner to chair this
 - iv. In previous years, Larry's truck was used. Not sure about our options this year

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- b. Fun & Food (Debbie Verson)
 - i. Kona Ice will be available again this year to provide free icees
 - ii. There will be a smaller than usual tent with about 200 seats capacity - no room for entertainment
 - iii. Tent will be set up on the grass to allow for the food trucks to be on the cement
 - o Concerns:
 - a. Uneven surface which may or may not be accessible to our event participants
 - b. If rain occurs, it could impact the grassy surface
 - i. If the weather isn't good, Public Works will lay down boards
 - c. Could create a possible need for volunteer runners to get the Kona Ice for the attendees to minimize the extra 'back and forth' fall risk for attendees
 - d. \$0 budget?
 - i. The goal for the event is to breakeven (goal is to find sponsors for a \$0 budget)
 - ii. We can use our RKCRD budget if needed
 - e. Pricing for sandwiches were \$4 per sandwich in 2021; 2022 brought in inflation so possibility of higher pricing than 2021
 - f. Space to assemble and distribute the food without taking space away from attendees
 - iv. Recommendation to simply distribute a bag of snacks this year instead of a full meal - **Motion and Vote**
 - o Treat bag to give out at the carnival
 - a. Maybe chips, candy, crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks raisins, etc. - contents TBD
 - b. Possibly reach out to vendors but donations would look different this year
 - c. Maybe Culvers could donate coupons for ice cream since there would not be freezers available to store the ice cream cups (or we pick up at the last minute to minimize melting)
 - o Options:
 - a. Provide full meal, not treat bags – we will supply the food ourselves via donations or payments from our budget
 - b. Provide treat bags rather than a full meal
 - o Motion to have full meal at Fun and Food
 - a. **Motion:** Jack Shapiro
 - b. **Second:** Allie Zalay
 - c. **Opposed:** None
 - d. **Abstain:** None
 - e. **In Favor:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi

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Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Allie Zalay, Leo Njongmeta

f. Motion approved

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. Wheeling Township 708 Board Presentation – Hugh Brady / Arlen Gould
 - Trying to fund a 708 Mental Health Board to fund mental health needs, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and individuals with substance abuse issues
 - 708 Boards have been around nearly 40 years
 - Group is called “Advocate for 708”
 - A 708 Board must be created via referendum; typically by Townships
 - What a 708 Board does:
 - Evaluates community needs and creates targeted local support
 - Strategies, plans and allocates funding
 - Coordinates a comprehensive system of services to help people living with
 - Mental health issues
 - Intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)
 - Substance use issues
 - Reduces or eliminates long waiting lists and gaps in services
 - Are not service providers
 - What is a 708 Board?
 - Local citizens’ board established by referendum
 - Volunteer board of 7=9 members
 - Appointed by the Township Board Supervisor
 - Accountable to the citizens of our community
 - More than 90 in Illinois
 - Hoping to be on the ballot in the general election of 2022
 - Process to creating a 708 board
 - Pass referendum
 - Township appoints board members
 - Board conducts needs assessment
 - Recommends a budget to the Township
 - Helps ensure money stays in the community and provides critical services to residents of the community
 - Levy is capped at 0.15% of the equalized assessed property value
 - Small cost to the homeowner
 - 708 Boards Work
 - In Bloomingdale, social workers were added to all community police forces
 - McHenry County offers QPR a suicide intervention training for families and professionals
 - Oak Park Townships, during COVID connected parents of children with I/DD to caregivers for support
 - Hanover Township, in just 9 months, provided services to more than 5% of their population
 - Lorri Grainawi is the head of the group (lorri.grainawi@gmail.com) 815-575-3106
 - They would love our support in helping get the referendum passed

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- If you are interested in walking Cook County, BG to get signatures that would be greatly appreciated
- Currently need at least 300 more signatures to get on the ballot
- There is a Facebook page – Mental Health Boards for Wheeling Township
 - <https://www.advocatefor708.org/>
- This is specific to Wheeling Township (Cook County, Buffalo Grove)
 - There are plans to introduce this to Vernon Township as well, but not currently (Lake County, Buffalo Grove)
 - There is a lot of support currently, presented at our Village Board recently
- Funds that are raised are directed by the Board based on the needs assessments
 - Agencies – such as the police department – can apply for money that is directly used back in the community to fund mental health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and substance abuse
 - Mostly non-profits apply for the money
- b. Senior Expo (Marty Sussman / Judy Samuels)
 - Lay out was not great with split rooms, we were in a small room that had less people visit – not as much traffic as what would have been if the event had a full room
 - Many people were asking about things that we did not do/provide – this may not be something we want to continue participating in as it may not match our mission
 - Do we need to update our mission?
 - Or do we need to help gather resources and brochures from local community organizations that can support residents with disabilities in the community?
- c. ID Card Update – Marty Sussman
 - It's done for Buffalo Grove, yeah!
 - The card is available, they've already gotten calls
 - Marty has shared this with the commission and the schools
 - There will be a presentation at Monday's (Monday, May 2nd) COW meeting going over the program
- d. Business Decal (Window Cling-Ons) Marty Sussman / Allie Zalay / Avi Samuels
 - Call out local businesses for supporting the community of individuals with disabilities with a decal that can be displayed in their place of business
 - Goal: recognize businesses for going the extra mile for individuals with disabilities
 - Ok to move forward as a subcommittee?
 - What is the criteria for earning a cling-on to display?
 - Employ individuals with disabilities?
 - Accessible for individuals with disabilities?
 - Who determines which businesses?
 - Who finds the businesses?
 - Can have community members nominate
 - Can we partner with the Chamber?
 - Do we want to rather use these to bring awareness of the Commission rather than recognition of businesses?
 - **IN SUMMARY** – move in the direction of awarding the Cling-On to a business that encourages businesses to embrace the disabled community – honor at a

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Village Board Meeting

- **NEXT STEPS:**
 - Subcommittee (Avi, Allie, Marty) will meet outside of the RKCRD meetings to begin to craft criteria – then would bring back the draft to the full commission for further discussion and potential action
- e. Continued discussion related to how our Commission can work with Planning and Zoning to be able to review and provide some input related to handicapped parking spots, etc (Marty Sussman)
 - Do we want to invite someone from Planning and Zoning or Community Development to hear their process in terms of ADA with new buildings and parking spaces?
 - Yes! – Evan will reach out to someone from Community Development to come to our next meeting
 - Commissioner Samuels is open to being a liaison if we determine it necessary

Deferred to next meeting

- f. 2 items coming out of Strategic planning

On Hold

- g. Commission website update – Allie Zalay
 - Nothing to do until the Village hires a Marketing individual

X. **New Business**

- a. Buffalo Grove Resident environmental concern - Dunkin Donuts on McHenry Road - Attachment New Business #A - (Avi Samuels)
 - Move to next month when we have the Community Development

XI. **Good and Welfare**

XII. **Adjournment at 8:49pm**

- a. Motion to adjust the meeting dates for August, November, and December
 - i. **Motion:** Jack Shapiro
 - ii. **Second:** Avi Samuels
 - iii. **Opposed:** None
 - iv. **Abstain:** None
 - v. **In Favor:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Matthew Dragon, Gowri Magati, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Allie Zalay, Leo Njongmeta
 - vi. **Motion approved**

Next Meeting May 25, 2022

The Village of Buffalo Grove, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities, who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact

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the ADA Coordinator at (847) - 459-2525 to allow the Village to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.