

SACG Meeting

March 15, 2021

Via Zoom

Welcome – President Harms welcomed 14 members at 6:00 PM

Secretary Report – Jill Hidingier asked if there were any changes to the February minutes. No changes and motion made to accept the minutes by Nancy Thorkildson, seconded by Tricia Sheldon. All Ayes.

Treasurer Report – Jay Herman reported Checking balance of \$15,690.54, Savings/Memorial account balance \$3,774.53 for a total of \$19,465.07, as of March 15, 2021. SACG is managing derecho contributions for the city with a balance of \$5,010.48 and \$700 in GoFundMe donations. Income reported of \$2229.49 and Expenses of \$423.04 for Easter candy, with \$1500 down payment made to Frazier Nursery for trees and Easter candy. Jim Hidingier made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Sue Herman. All Ayes.

Old Business –

Dues- Jay Herman said we have 29 members paid with 6 outstanding. Marlys Harms will contact those that are still outstanding.

Catalyst Grant – Nancy Thorkildson mentioned there is now a new owner of the old bank building and the grant will transfer ownership from Brian Vogt. Still planning on it becoming an eatery.

Easter Egg Hunt – Debi Reynolds reported the dates have been set for students at the Elementary school playground to receive Easter Baskets. It will not be the traditional Easter Egg Hunt and times will be spread over March 30, 31, and April 1.

Trees Forever Grant – Nancy Thorkildson reported on the grant request she wrote in the amount of \$8,843.00. SACG received the full requested amount and will be pledging \$500 from the donated derecho funds. Jay Herman researched tree prices and availability for approximately 60 trees that will be dedicated to our parks, green section across from City Hall and the area of the new fire station. Thanks to Jay Herman, Phil Schaff, Mary Mott, Bob Shultis, and Scott McNeal for their contribution to making this happen. Chuck Betterton will be auguring holes in preparation of a scheduled date of May 8th for planting the trees. Nancy requested community volunteers to assist the Fire Department, FFA youth and 4-H members in this enormous project. An invitation has been extended to Katelyn Folkmann, Iowa Miss Agriculture Advocacy Ambassador as well.

Go Fund Me Account – These funds are earmarked for tree replacement in Shellsburg. Since SACG received the Trees Forever Grant money to be dedicated to our city parks, a committee will be formed to distribute Go Fund Me money in the form of a coupon to our residents to be used for purchasing a tree. Tim Peters, Lori Mott, Deb Oldakowski, Nancy Thorkildson and Jean Fish will form a committee to hammer out the details.

Benton County Foundation Grant – Nancy Thorkildson, Beth Ann Weigand and Deb Oldakowski collaborated on a proposal, requesting an award of funds enough to purchase shaded benches and Funnel Ball for the park.

Committees

Golf – Marlys confirmed June 19th with Wildcat. Starting to look at sponsors.

Economic Development – Jill Hidingler talked about the meeting with ECICOG guests regarding tax abatements, rebates, and urban renewal areas. Next meeting April 14th.

Family Fun Nights – committee will attempt to have one as a kick-off to Big Day

Membership – Nothing new to report

Big Day – Set for July 17th

Scholarship – Debi Reynolds and Kelsey Fish reported one application had been received to date.

Horticulture – Tricia Sheldon requested \$400 to maintain flower beds, and flowerpots around town. Sue Herman made a motion in the affirmative, seconded by Meri Mott. All Ayes.

New Business

Trees Forever/Planting Hope Program – Oct. 1st is a second round of grant cycle due date should we decide to apply for a \$5,000 award for tree money.

Shellsburg Pride Donation – Marlys Harms brought forward discussion about contributing to the Pride. Tricia Sheldon made a motion to provide \$200, seconded by Sue Herman. All Ayes.

Recreation Department – Marlys Harms was contacted by Rhonda Bridgewater. She is looking for organizations interested in working the ball tournaments this summer. After much discussion we decided to look at working this event on July 10th. Will be needing several volunteers to assist. Kelsey Fish will put a schedule together for sign-ups.

Other Items – Mayor Speckner is looking for a project for a local Eagle Scout. Marlys told him we did not have anything consistent with the requirements of an Eagle Scout project. Deb Oldakowski brought up a grant opportunity with the Wellmark Foundation. Jill Hidingler mentioned putting together a committee to work on a proposal for this grant. Deb, Jill, Jim and Marlys will collaborate and schedule a meeting to start the process.

Adjourn – We adjourned at 7:20 PM. All Ayes.

Jill Hidingler

Secretary