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**Cumming Hometown Pride**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 20, 2022**

1. Attendance: Renee Highfill, Shaunda Murphy, Angie Cooper, Pat Whalen, Craig Olson, Lorin Ditzler
2. Approval of Agenda – Shaunda motioned and Craig seconded the motion
3. Approval of 3/16/22 minutes – Craig motioned and Shaunda seconded the motion
4. **Banner updates:**

* Since MidAmerican did not approve our plans to put banners on their utility poles we discussed other options:
  + Vinyl banners – the committee voted this idea down. Renee said Cumming Tap had done vinyl banners a few years ago in Norwalk and they were vandalized and torn down soon after they were put up.
  + Put banners along bike trail or in city parks – the committee voted this down.
  + Await bike trail along G-24 to be built and work with city and Hy-Vee to have light poles installed along trail and put banners there. CHTP all voted in favor of pursuing this option.
* We were awarded a $5,000 grant from Warren County Philanthropic Partnership (WCPP) for the banner project but it must be used in 9 months. Since MidAmerican declined our project Craig motioned and Pat seconded that we decline the grant for 2022. All voted in favor of declining the grant. Plan is to reapply when we have approval for the new project which will be to install poles and lights along the new bike trail along Cumming Road/G-24 between Old Town and the new Hy-Vee Convenience Store. This is currently slated for late 2023.
* City of Cumming will need to sign off on the insurance liability for the banners as well as the new plan for the poles and banners to be put along G-24.
* Pat said he would work up a short presentation on the new banner idea for the City Council – target date of May 9th to present this to them.
* Renee said she would reach out to the 7 banner donators and let them know of the new project and ask them if they are willing to push this to next year.
* As a companion to this project Pat Whalen suggested a “mural” to possibly be painted on the buildings or painted on a product to attach to the buildings at American Legion, IA Distilling, and Middlebrook that would match the designs for the metal pole banners.

1. **Parks & Rec Projects** – Shaunda to check with John McPartland on dog waste stations for both parks and on a project to spray wash & seal the wood at the Pavilion.
2. **Welcome Bags** – Sarah to deliver bags to 227 N. 36th St. and 210 N. 36th St. in next few days.
3. **Front Porch “Cumming”** – Lorin suggested after a discussion with Mayor Brent Highfill that we mirror this program started by Norwalk HTP a couple years ago. We all agreed and we will begin to advertise it on Facebook and in the newsletter. We will target the same dates that Norwalk uses – this year those are Wednesday June 8, Wednesday July 13, and Wednesday August 10. This is very informal and CHTP members will attempt to support at least one of these this summer at their home. Lorin to get the Norwalk template and information for us to modify for Cumming.
4. **Yard of the Month** – First award for May – nominations due by May 7th. Jessica to add to the Cumming Newsletter and will be posted on Facebook as well (Lorin and Pat have access).

Next meeting – May 18, 2022