

CITY OF BELLEVUE
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2019
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Conference Room 1E-113

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Wilson – Parks
Dean Harm – Fire
Glen Albright – Fire
Mike Shovlin – Police
Ben Wright – Transportation
Mike Ogliore – Business Representative Downtown
Chris Dunham – Business Representative West
Laurie Scott – Downtown Resident Representative
Meredith Langridge – Special Event Promoter, Position 1

OTHERS PRESENT: Imane Elmesbahi, Parks

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chair Wilson who presided.

2. COMMUNICATIONS: Written and Oral

Chair Wilson reported that a complaint was received from someone who lives to the south of Downtown Park. The complaint was in regard to the placement of the portable toilets at the south end of the park. Because of health regulations and the food services located on the plaza, the facilities can only be moved so far away. For next year some temporary fencing could possibly be put up to screen the portable toilets.

Chair Wilson also reported that the Concourse d'Elegance car show, canceled for 2019, plans to hold a scaled down version of the event in 2020 at a jet hangar somewhere rather than in Bellevue. Their desire is to have a big show in Downtown Park in 2021.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Langridge. The motion was seconded by Ms. Scott and the motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the June 13, 2019, meeting minutes as submitted was made by Ms. Langridge. The motion was seconded by Ms. Scott and the motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ Routing and Location Subcommittee Report

Chair Wilson said the subcommittee did not meet during July because of the 4th of July holiday. The team had many meetings leading up to the 4th of July event to make sure everything would go smoothly, and there will be meetings and discussions leading up to the arts fair weekend as well. The subcommittee likely will have a meeting later in July to talk to the organizer of the Flavors of India event about their parade.

6. OLD BUSINESS

❖ Tabled Events: Ascend Prime Steak & Sushi

Chair Wilson noted that he had heard nothing more about the event or whether they had applied for a temporary use permit.

❖ Tabled Events: Honda Expo Event

Chair Wilson reminded the committee members that no action had been taken regarding the event. He commented that while the event might grow over time, it likely will not have very many attendees for its first run. The question is whether or not the event should be required to have a special event permit.

Sgt. Shovlin said he assumed that the Hondas and Acuras will all be extremely loud. It is also possible that like Stance Wars the drivers will do some showing off as they leave. Having officers on site would be a good idea.

Mr. Albright said a fire inspection should be required as well.

Ms. Dunham pointed out that the estimated number of attendees is less than the permit threshold.

Chair Wilson agreed and said the event could get by without a permit provided the organizer works directly with police and fire.

A motion not to require a special event permit and to direct the event organizer to work directly with police and fire was made by Ms. Dunham. The motion was seconded by Ms. Langridge and the motion carried unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

❖ Application of Intent: Obliteride

Chair Wilson said the application of intent for Obliteride was received. The ride-through event has been reviewed by both transportation and police. The 50-mile route passes through the southwest corner of the city along the Lake Washington trail from Newcastle to and across I-90. For the larger 100-mile ride, 23 miles of the route are in the city on I-90 with a loop up through the Lake Hills Connector and eventually making its way over to West Lake Sammamish Parkway. The rides follow the rules of the road.

Mr. Wright said he had no concerns after having chatted with the organizer about placing signs along the routes.

Chair Wilson noted that the event was required to obtain a special event permit in 2018, with all

but \$250 of the fees waived.

Mr. Wright asked if not requiring a permit for the event would affect the recurring event status. Chair Wilson said it would not. He said he did not view the event as a Bellevue event given that it does not start or finish in the city, it only passes through.

A motion not to require a special event permit for the Obliteride event was made by Sgt. Shovlin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Langridge and the motion carried unanimously.

❖ Post-Event Evaluations: Four on the Fourth Dog Jog

Chair Wilson said the event once again was wonderful and enjoyable.

Mr. Ogliore said the event enjoys a great partnership with the city, including transportation and police, and has good volunteers from a local high school. He said the weather was good and there were no major issues or complaints from local residents. He added that it was good to have the library parking available for the event.

Sgt. Shovlin said all went well from the perspective of the police. He noted that the fire chief participated in the event but not in uniform. Capt. Harm, who also participated, was in uniform.

Chair Wilson said for the next iteration of the event it would be a good idea to expand the vendor area to reduce the crowding. He also pointed out that some master planning for Ashwood Park is under way, though any renovation activities are likely several years down the road.

❖ Fourth of July Celebration

Chair Wilson noted that the evaluation report for the Fourth of July event had not yet been received. He said from his perspective everything ran very smoothly.

Mr. Ogliore said a complimentary email was sent out from Parks with kudos to all departments. He said there were no major issues. Statistically everything went well and even the weather cooperated. He said Bellevue has much to be proud of in presenting the event.

Capt. Harm said he was posted at the Westin along with Captain Harnden. He noted that the aid crews handed out 22 Band-Aids and five cold packs, and handled three reportable injuries, two of which required transport. The event was very well run.

Sgt. Shovlin said all went well from the perspective of the police, including the exiting at the end of the event. He commented that there were some 10,000 people standing at the intersection of 102nd Avenue NE and NE 4th Street wanting to cross the street to get to the parking garage. There were only four police officers on site keeping them from doing so, and the great thing about Bellevue is that they all obeyed. The traffic was cleared by 11:40 p.m. The biggest issue the police had to face was drones, though they primarily were flying over the street next to the park rather than over the park itself.

Chair Wilson said there is talk of establishing an overall city policy covering the use of drones. The departments have been asked to provide input.

Ms. Scott said all of the residents she talked to about the event were smiling and thrilled that Bellevue has the event.

Chair Wilson reiterated that consideration will be given to the locating and screening of the portable toilets ahead of the 2020 Fourth of July event.

❖ Comments/Follow-up

Mr. Ogliore noted that the Live at Lunch series began on July 9.

Chair Wilson said the first movies in the park event was rained out the first night. Hopefully the weather will be more accommodating going forward. The arts fair events are just around the corner.

Sgt. Shovlin asked if there will be a lot of difference given that one of the three fairs will not occur. Ms. Langridge said she assumed there would be fewer attendees overall. Sgt. Shovlin asked if people traditionally have attended just one of the three shows or all three, with the three events viewed essentially as a single event. Mr. Ogliore said he has been hearing from several who think nothing will be happening given that the Festival of the Arts will not be happening.

Chair Wilson said many on NextDoor have been saying the same thing. He said he has been weighing in with clarifications. Ms. Langridge said she has been dealing with the same issue. Chair Wilson suggested it would be good to have the city's public information officer from the City Manager's Office put out an official notice saying the arts fair will indeed be happening.

Sgt. Shovlin informed the Committee that the command center would be set up in the parking lot at the northwest corner of NE 8th Street and Bellevue Way. From the standpoint of the police, nothing will change just because one of the three fairs will not happen.

7. NEXT MEETING

❖ August 8, 2019

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.