

Community Relations Committee Meeting

May 5, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present: Wicca Davidson, Aki Peritz, Julie Stanish, Julia Bellinger, Emily Helms Williams, Barbara Rose, Maryanne Courtney, Cathy Wolf, Tambra Leonard, Farrell Rodd, Danielle Muenzfeld, Maryanne Courtney

General Business

- The minutes of the April 2021 meeting were presented to and approved by the Committee. Barbara moved to approve the minutes, and Cathy seconded the motion.
- Joy White observed the committee meeting. The group reviewed the mission of the Committee and how it has operated during the pandemic.

Old Business

Events and Community Service

- Garden Discussion and Dessert with Edamarie Mattei of Backyard Bounty – Cathy and others from the committee reported on the event, which was held on April 15 and was well received. About 30 Town households attended. The event focused on how to be environmentally responsible with your garden. The recording is available on the Town’s website for those who were unable to attend.
- Sake and Sushi Discussion and Dessert with Amanda Page – Julia reported on the event, which was held on April 23. About 25 households joined. It was a very educational and enjoyable event. The speaker was very knowledgeable, although attendees did not have as many questions as during the wine event.
- Labyrinth Games Shop Virtual Gaming Event – Tambra reported on the event, which was held on April 25. Two games were offered, Spyfall and Codenames. Six children joined for each game, between the ages of 8-12. The games were engaging, and the attendees enjoyed them.
- Town Book Club – Maryanne reported that the second meeting of the book club was held on April 25. About 10 people joined to discuss “Infinite Country” by Patricia Engel. The attendees were very engaged and interested in continuing meeting going forward. The group will meet every four to six weeks and will aim to pick a diverse selection of books. The club has been a success so far. It is open to any Town residents at any time.
- Independence Day celebration – Wicca reported on discussions about the event with the Town Council at its April meeting. At that meeting, the group discussed the challenges with holding a large in-person event in light of the ongoing pandemic, and that planning for the event is normally largely complete by this time. Various opinions were expressed at the Town Council meeting. The Committee discussed options, including plans for a smaller, alternative event.

New Business

Events and Community Service

- Cicadas Zoom Event – Wicca reported that Tolbert Feather, the Town Arborist, will be speaking at a virtual event on cicadas scheduled for Friday, May 7. Over 70 residents have signed up for the event. The group discussed logistics for the event. Tambra volunteered to co-host the event with Wicca.
- Potential Future Events – The Committee discussed potential future events, including whether it might be feasible to continue a virtual component to events after the pandemic ends, since they are accessible to residents who might not join in-person events.
- Welcome Bags – The Committee discussed assembling and delivering the next set of Welcome Bags to new residents, which include information about the Town.

Other Business

- Next meeting: June 2, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting, and Julia seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Emily Helms Williams