

MINUTES
STATHAM EVENTS COMMITTEE
Monday, 02.26.2024
6:30pm

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Christine Bogenrieder at 6:30pm.

Committee Members present: Christine Bogenrieder, Cathy Bennett, Lacie Dooley, Shannon Patterson, Kristi Royston, Mickey Smith. Gary Venable arrived later.

Community Members present: Drew Casto, Wade Casto, Dean Coy, Mayor Debi Krause, Betty Lyle, Dana Mann, Council Member Tim Terilli, *Maybe Neal Bender?? Difficult to read handwriting.*

2. Meet and Greet

All attendees introduced themselves and a sign-in sheet was passed around.

3. Designate *Is it Co-Chairperson or Vice Chairperson?* and Secretary

Chairperson Bogenrieder announced Gary Venable will serve as *Is it Co-Chairperson or Vice Chairperson?* and Kristi Royston will serve as Secretary.

4. New Business

- a. It was discussed that the events will be basic in the beginning. This will allow the committee to form a strong foundation based on participation and community ideas.
- b. Funding will come from the current remaining budget. Requests will be made to include event funding in the new budget. That budget will go into effect July 2024.
- c. Proposed Calendar of Events: A tentative list of events was presented and discussed. The discussion included soliciting volunteers and possible sponsorships.

March 22

Music Trivia Night (Community Center): All vendors have been gotten. There will be musical decorations and people will be encouraged to dress up. Gift cards will be given to winners. A police officer will be available. Tentative timeline: 6:00pm food truck, 6:30pm – 8:00pm music trivia, 6:00pm to 9:00pm bartender, 8:30pm acoustic show.

March 23

Easter in Statham: Easter Bunny at the Library from 11:30am to 12:30pm and Egg Hunt at 1025 Church beginning at 1:00pm. Inflatables and lunch provided.

April 27

Statham Maker's Market (Community Center): Mickey Smith is heading up this project. Vendors will have homemade, handmade items for sale. Booth fee will be either \$25/\$30 for booth and table. A vendor application needs to be created.

May

Lion's Club Spring Fest: Dean Coy shared that there will be around 50 vendors present at the Lion's Club. Police will be present as well as Public Works.

June 1

Summer Fun Kick-Off (Railroad Street): Tentative timeline is 9:00am to 12noon. We will advertise on Facebook, Instagram, and the Library. Possibility of having a food drive, one man band, inflatables, safety, fire education, etc. It was also mentioned that literacy initiatives could be included in some way.

July 6

Star Spangled Statham (Railroad Street): This is the Saturday after July 4. Arrangements will need to be made to close Railroad Street. Various ideas were discussed: fireworks, inflatables, food trucks, face painting, games, magician, dunk tank, bubble makers, and ice cream. A preliminary fireworks quote was received, \$10,000 for 10 minutes. There was a high-level discussion of possibly having sponsorships for the fireworks.

August

Back to School/Teacher Appreciation: Possibly a trivia night, maybe are you smarter than a 5th grader style. Honor teachers in some way and provide either an Amazon gift card or items to help in their classrooms. Maybe the Bear Creek Middle School Chorus or Band could perform. Another idea was an event for the elderly community. A senior prom was suggested.

September

Sunflower Festival: Should the City have a booth to share upcoming events and contact information? There was a high-level discussion about obtaining a permit and insurance coverage. Mayor Krause is going to check on this.

October

Halloween (all month long): There will be an event every weekend. This could include a dance, a scavenger hunt, pumpkin/rock painting, a 5k run. Downtown will be decorated and the committee will encourage business involvement.

November

Veteran's Event; Chili or BBQ Cookoff (Community Center or back lot): Attendees liked the idea of a Veteran's Parade or event. A senior event was mentioned again, possibly the senior prom, a barbershop quartet, and other bands to play music.

December

Tree Lighting, Winter Market: Tentative date for the tree lighting is December 7. Other items discussed were a winter market, a parade, carriage rides, a choir (again possibly Bear Creek Chorus).

5. Stuff eggs for Easter event

Chairperson Bogenrieder made everyone aware they could stay and help stuff prizes into the plastic Easter eggs.

6. Adjournment

Mayor Debi Krause made a motion to dismiss. Mickey Smith seconded the motion. With unanimous approval, the meeting ended at 7:26pm.