

Cowell Homeowners Association
Activities Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2023 - CHOA Clubhouse

Present: Gloria Birch, Tim Darnell, Cinda Mah,, Janelle Rudden

Time started: 7:47p

Time ended: 9:03p

Gloria welcomed the group to the Clubhouse and thanked everyone for coming.

- Nerissa Wetherell stopped by with egg stuffers
- Cinda Mah brought the paper flowers she designed and created for the event
- We distributed plastic eggs amongst ourselves and stuffers to fill as we chatted

1. Spring Fest

- Current RSVP count: 664 RSVPs - 229 kids (7 babies) and 443 adults
- Given the current rainy weather, we decided if the forecast shows rain, we will keep the event on 3/25 but move it to the Clubhouse and adjust our food order to expect fewer guests
 - Donuts & Coffee & Bunny photos at Clubhouse, Easter Bunny to hand out eggs
 - Move petting zoo to Summer Kick-off
- Food details
 - Donuts + donut holes - update our order given the increase in RSVPs: 43 dozen donuts (20 doz glazed, 9 doz chocolate frosting, and 14 doz strawberry frosting with sprinkles - 516 donuts) and 25 dozen donut holes (300 holes)
 - Donuts to be displayed in their boxes and put out in a staggered fashion by the volunteer Snack Crew so they don't all disappear at once
 - Fruit: we will purchase bananas and cuties so we don't have to do fruit prep
 - Fruit to be displayed in baskets
- Egg hunt details
 - We currently have 2,500 eggs, aka 12 eggs per kid
 - Mott's fruit snacks didn't fit inside the eggs - we will need to find a substitute
- Entertainment
 - Discussed need to find new Easter Bunny volunteer to wear costume
 - Given the high number of adults coming to the event, we will rent lawn games for extra entertainment from Chairs for Affairs: 2 giant connect 4, 1 giant jenga, and 1 giant checkers board.
 - These will be placed on the lawn and basketball court
- Book Drive
 - We will have clear plastic bins to collect books at the Welcome Table
 - Sweet Beginnings is only open on Wednesdays for their diaper distribution and we will deliver the books on a Wednesday after the event
- Volunteers

- We have a few extra slots needed on our sign-up genius, but most slots have been filled
- Delegated final tasks
 - Jenelle will handle the Guess the Jelly Bean jar: find large jar, purchase & count jelly beans, make voting papers (we have little boxes to put votes inside)
 - Gloria to acquire 4 golden eggs: purchase eggs & \$10 target gift card. We will place a paper slip inside the eggs to redeem the gift card at the welcome table

2. Upcoming events

We briefly chatted about the upcoming events:

- Next major event: Summer Kick-Off (Sat 6/3)
 - Last day of school for MDUSD is 6/2. This event is intended to be a fun kick-off to summer before everyone has left for vacation/camps etc
 - Need to find out when graduation ceremonies are before announcing the date to ensure no major conflicts
 - Event might include: a fun run/walk around Larwin, followed by a party on the lawn with several family-friendly activities (Bounce houses, post-race DJ?, ice cream truck, photo booth, create Crossings merch (t-shirts & hats), colored hairspray station (can be volunteer run), music)
- Gloria has begun the leg work on some possible minor events for our community and would like Activities Committee members to choose which of these they would like to be the main lead on executing
 - Gloria will continue to lead all of the major events and will oversee minor events
 - The Committee members present are currently unable to lead one of these so they will be on hold for the time being:
 - Concert on the Belt: live music and a food truck (guests to purchase own food and BYOB). Sat 8/19 - moved back since we likely won't have a stage in June - This date is flexible, based on when the stage can be built
 - Gloria has contact with the Well Pennies band who might stop by on their summer tour
 - Movie on the Green (TBD) - needs to be at a time of year when it gets dark early (~6p) for families to be able to attend (March/October).
 - Gloria already received an estimate from FunFlicks estimate for the screen etc & popcorn machine \$644 + cost to purchase DVD (streaming not advised)
 - Adults-only Wine Tasting (TBD) - hire Black Rose Bartending to pour wines, possibly get grazing board or individual charcuterie cups from a local business (Gloria already has contact), music
- Fall events:
 - Fall Fest - Sat 10/7 4-6p - pumpkin patch, face painting, dog halloween costume contest, food truck, live music

- Red Cross Blood drive - Sat 10/14 9a-3p - hosted at the Clubhouse. Red Cross handles most details, minimum 35 participants

3. Additional items discussed

- Committee wants the Holiday Crafts Boutique to return to the Crossings. We discussed putting it out in the Signal to see if anyone who attended a previous Smokestack Boutique would like to lead in bringing it back
- There is a lot of interest in joining the Activities Committee and we would like to see more active participation in meetings. Attendance tends to be 2-3 members.

Assigned tasks:

Gloria Birch

- Reach out to contacts who may volunteer to be Easter Bunny
- Test speaker for music, will need a phone to play music
- Map out event layout
- Delegate who will bring ice morning of the event - enough for 2 huge bins
- Acquire 4 golden eggs: purchase eggs & \$10 target gift card. Create a paper to slip inside the eggs to redeem the gift card at the welcome table
- Touch base with petting zoo to see if they need a volunteer to handle the line and update SignupGenius accordingly
- Check on outlets at the pool to ensure enough power for 3 separate outlets for coffee makers
- Find out when graduation ceremonies are so we can determine our Summer Kick-off party date
- Chat with Bill regarding the need for a stage to be built in order for live music on the lawn. It isn't cost effective to rent a stage and have it delivered

Tim Darnell

- Reach out to contacts who may volunteer to be Easter Bunny

Cinda Mah

- Place order at Kings Donuts and pick up donuts morning-of
- Look for baskets to display fresh fruit

Jenelle Rudden

- Jelly Bean jar: find large jar, purchase & count jelly beans, make voting papers (we have little boxes to put votes inside)

Nerissa Wetherell

- Purchase soft candy option to replace Mott's fruit snacks

Gloria thanked everyone for coming and opting to stay a little later to continue chatting and stuffing eggs. The meeting concluded at 9:03pm.