



*City of Bridgeton*  
*Parks & Recreation*  
*Department*

**Terry Briggs**, Mayor  
Brendan Kane, Director

**Special Events Commission Meeting**  
**February 22, 2022 Reporting**

**NOTICE: This meeting was changed from its original scheduled date of February 28, 2022 to February 22, 2022.**

**Open/Call to Order:** Ginger moved to open the meeting at 6 p.m. Valerie second the motion. There was a majority vote of 'Ayes' to begin the meeting promptly at 6 p.m.

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Connie Buenemann, Valerie Corey, Josie Hudson, Carol Steinbach, Ginger Noblitt, Dan Volmert, Kim Volmert, Delores Mimms, Gretchen Luke (Ex. Officio), Ashleigh Borgmann (P&R Intern) and Angela Wright (Secretary)

**Absent:** **Matt DeWitt (Chair)** Unable to attend commission meeting due to work commitment/meeting; **Carol Chaney** (Accidentally not notified about meeting change date); **Julie Chase** (Unable to change previous engagement to attend the new meeting date), and **Al Thal**,

**Agenda:** The February 22, 2022, meeting **agenda** was approved by attending members.

**Announcement(s):** Angela announced that this July 04, 2022, would be her last parade and she would be retiring on July 4, 2022. She feels very confident that her replacement will be very capable if not better!

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** The January 24, 2022, meeting minutes were approved as written with changes. The change would be to make Connie Buenemann in charge of recruiting the Healthcare Heroes (Parade Marshals) instead of Dan Volmert.

There was a quorum in attendance.

**Ex-Officio Report:**

Councilwoman Gretchen Luke provided attending members with up-to-date city changes/updates (i.e., City Council exploring to change the city charter to possibly change City Council Member and Mayoral terms, approval of homerun fence @ BMAC, a new business [Harbor Freight & Tools] sharing a building with Weekends Only, ATA Marshal Arts moving to old Block Buster building on Natural Bridge Rd., Rich Gould being honored for his 34 years at KPLR, etc.). Gretchen also gave another update on ward adjustments and the 2022 election candidates. She addressed questions and/or concerns from attending members.

Additional information is available via the Bridgeton Banner Newsletter and the city's website located at [www.bridgetonmo.com](http://www.bridgetonmo.com).

## New Business:

- Angela first went through the parade subcommittee list and asked members to help fill in blank assignments. See attached form.

## Summary of Old Business: (MATT asked that we begin tracking progress via the Parade Checklist)

### *July 4, 2022 Parade Celebration Preparation – See Attachment*

- Angela passed everyone a copy of the 2022 budget again along with a copy of the July 2022 Checklist.
- Carol S. began going through the July 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 Checklist as Angela recorded information.
- **Car Judging:** We asked Dan V. to speak about the changes in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade car judging first. He suggested that we do not allow the participants to pick their category on the application form. The judges will judge according to updated category listed below:
  - Classic
  - Custom
  - Joe Hood

Dan also suggested that we obtain dash plaques for all Antique, Vintage, Classic, and Newer Car participants which is common for car shows. (Maybe a brass plaque with Bridgeton logo, event, and year). Dan & Josie will investigate the dash plates and get quotes.

Dan advised that these types of events are commonly classified as 'Car Shows' and we should refer to what we know as parade antique car judging as a 'Car Show.'

All members in attendance thought all of Dan's ideas were great and agreed to proceed with his plan.

- **Bands:** Valerie C. advised that she and Carol C. drafted a letter for Pattonville High School, Ritenour High School, Hazelwood Central High School, St. Charles High School, St. Charles Fife & Drum Corp, University City, and Brittany Woods Middle School. She had question about flag Corp of Parkway North participating. We all agreed it would be great! Angela sent the letters to the schools the week before our meeting. No confirmed notices yet.

Valerie C. and Angela both said they attempted to contact the Red & Black Brass band but no response yet.

Valerie was inquiring about a possible stipend for additional bands and if yes how much. There was a discussion regarding this question, and everyone seemed to agree that we should wait to see how many bands offer to participate.

- **Marketing:** Ashleigh B., Valerie C. and Angela W. passed around parade flyers (General Info/ Parade Entry Form/ Newspaper/ Mayors Newsletter/ website) and advertisements for feedback. Everyone in attendance had a chance to review and provide feedback. We will be advertising on the Bridgeton web site, Mayor's Newsletter, Localite Shopper, Bridgeton Facebook, and I-70 Billboard. We will be directing people to the Bridgeton website for up-to-date information as well.
- **T-Shirts (new members):** Ginger N. brought polo shirts from Arch City Monogramming (Karleen Schrupf) for new members to try on for size. She will provide Karleen with the sizes received from the members.
- **Trophies:** Josie H. and Dan V. will bring samples to the next meeting in March meeting now that we know how many are needed.
- **Equestrian:** Reminder - The subject of equestrians came about. Everyone seemed to miss the horses. All members in attendance said they would keep the horses in mind and look for stables. Someone mentioned the horses that reside on Smiley. However, nothing has been determined and no one agreed to approach the owners.

- **Giveaways** – Ginger N. brought paperwork and ideas for giveaways. She passed around the papers for everyone to vote on 3 items they liked. Our normal vendor advised that if we choose something coming from China to expect delays. However, some items like key chains are manufactured in Missouri.

Below are few of the suggestions:

- |                            |                           |                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| • Beads – Problem w/fading | • Stress balls            | • Bug Repellant |
| • Key Chains               | • Draw string bags        | • Chip Clips    |
| • Koozies                  | • Old Maid Cards          | • Mood Erasers  |
| • Plastic Cups             | • Plastic Squeeze Bottles | • Lip Balm      |
| • Tape Measures            |                           |                 |

Connie B. suggested that we also giveaway and get rid of what we have (hodge podge items) stored in the basement. Everyone agreed. Ashleigh and Angela will go check to see what we have sitting around.

- **PHS Royalty:** Valerie C. was contacted back by the PHS Resource Desk at Pattonville High School regarding information on the PHS Royalty. She will be returning the call. There was also a discussion around the fact that PHS now has a Homecoming King which will make for 4 members of Royalty. Valerie will validate and get names, phone numbers and addresses.

It was mentioned that we only need a car for PHS Royalty since we are using the trolley for our parade marshals. Gretchen said that Jerry Grimmer offered his car again this year. She will check and see if Jerry's friend is interested in doing it again since we may have 4 PHS Royalty riding this year.

- **Senior Parking/Viewing of Parade** – Matt will get with Faith Baptist Church to inquire about using their facility for senior parking and viewing.
- **Honor Guards:** We will be using the Scout troops as Honor Guards since the Pattonville Fire District (PFD) Honor Guards want to stay with their organization during the procession. Dan V. contacted the Patriot Guard to see if there is any interest in being the Honor Guard and they never got back to him. Carol S. seemed to think that they reserve those dates for special occasions like funerals. Carol will check with James Ertle or Pamela Jensen regarding the Boy Scouts. She will also check with VFW # 3944.
- **Hot Dogs:** Everyone agreed to raise the number of hotdogs for parade participants from 1200 back to 1800.
- **Costume Contest:** Carol S. will oversee the costume contest this year. She reminded Angela to add the costume sheet to the back of the entry form.
- **Water:** Josie contacted Hollywood Casino and was able to inquire about the Casino donating water again this year. Hollywood Casino agreed to supply us with water. Josie will put Angela in contact with the Marketing person Hollie Norton. Last year they donated 50 cases of water.

Josie also talked to the Casino about placing a float in the parade. The marketing representative appeared to be interested and asked for information. Angela will send information to Hollie.

- **Trolley:** There was a brief discussion regarding the trolley. The open-air trolley was sold and the only trollies available have windows. However, they are air-conditioned. The driver will allow people to get off and on from time to time. We attempted to contact open-air trollies and it ended up being the same St. Louis Carriage & Trolley company. St. Louis Trolley company offered us a break for \$600 (not including driver's tip). There is an ADA trolley that seats 22 people and is a U-shaped/horseshoe seating or there is one with forward seating and just an isle for wheelchairs.

Connie B. made a motion that we secure the ADA horseshoe shaped trolley for \$600 + tip. Both Ginger & Delores second the motion. It was put to a vote and Aye's won the majority. We will lease the ADA horseshoe seated trolley for \$600 + tip for the driver.

- There was conversation about getting participants and someone suggested that the St. Charles Derby Chicks would be interested in participating.

After going through the subcommittee tasks and the checklist the meeting was adjourned at 7:32PM.



**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
6 PM MONDAY MARCH 28, 2022  
AT THE BRC**

**PLEASE WORK ON YOUR SUBCOMMITTEE TASKS AND BE READY TO  
REPORT.  
THANK YOU!**



Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Wright – Secretary