

BLOCK PARTY COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016, 3:30 – 4:30 PM

LINCOLN HALL MEETING ROOM

AGENDA

1. Update on Vendors, Participants and Sponsors
2. Discuss Possible Change of Location/Grant Application
3. Next meeting: May 23, 2016

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
MINUTES OF BLOCK PARTY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 25, 2016**

PRESENT: Bridget Meyer, Brian Roy and Sam Jackson.
ADMINISTRATION: Patty Benoit, Administrative Assistant; Darby Mayville, Community Relations Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.

1. Update on Vendors, Participants and Sponsors

We would still like someone to sell hamburgers and hot dogs; the CCSU Child Nutrition Program indicated they couldn't do it. Brian said the Little League sells them at the park on the 4th of July, so Patty will reach out to our contact there to ask if they'd be interested in doing it at the block party too. Possibly hiring a caterer to do it was discussed as well (Rick's or Wetherbee's). It was agreed that people don't seem to want a full meal at the block party because they tend to prefer to just sample the various offerings.

There's a possibility a new restaurant will be open in May on Park Street, so Darby will visit them to invite them to the block party.

We're over budget on the sponsors by \$100 so far and we have some new ones this year.

2. Discuss Possible Change of Location/Grant Application

The Trustees authorized applying for an AARP Community Demonstration Project grant through Heart & Soul of Essex. The grant could be used to close a block in the Village downtown for a weekend and hosting the block party on Main Street one day. Main Street would be closed from the five corners to the railroad tracks. The idea of closing that block of Main St. permanently has been recommended by the Crescent Connector Committee and the Design Five Corners Project. It is currently under study by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission.

The committee thought that Main St. wouldn't be as large as Railroad Ave. for the block party. We might be able to use the empty lot at 3 Main St. for some activities too. The owner has offered the use of it to the municipality for parking until it's developed. We should know if the grant is award by May 16. Then the committee will check out the lot at 3 Main St. to see if it will work for the block party.

It was agreed we'll have to be aggressive about getting the word out about the new location to business owners. It shouldn't be a problem for people coming to the block party because it's just around the corner from the usual location. We will notify the Essex Police as soon as it's official.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM. The next meeting will be May 23, 2016 at 3:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patty Benoit
Pab