



# Labor Day Parade Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes

### April 8, 2024

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**Board Members present:** David Diaz, Kathy Garrison, Vicki Hess, Art Milton, Grace Shirk, Bill Sowards, Edna Sowards, KJ Whitley, Mary Chappell

**Board Members absent:**

**City Staff present:** Dan Gleason

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The seventh meeting to discuss the **40th** annual Rock Island Labor Day parade was called to order at 12:02 pm. The meeting was held in the conference room at the Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center or RIFAC.

#### I. Introductions

#### 2. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

#### 3. Approval of the March 12, 2024, Minutes

A motion was made by G. Shirk and seconded by K. Garrison to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

D. Gleason confirmed that the 2023 sponsorship funds from McDonald's were received.

#### 5. Planning #40 Parade

K. Whitley led the discussion regarding the two remaining logo options. Board members reviewed ideas for modifications. K. Whitley will present changes to the teacher and send email to board members for final vote.

M. Chappell thanked D. Gleason for sending the Save the Date postcards. She referenced the annual promotional schedule and noted the letter to bands is being edited to reference the participation of the ILLINI Band. She also referenced the official promotional packet that was received from the ILLINI Band office. Copies were shared with board members and with Mayor Thoms. Once the Mayor officially announces the band's participation, it can be added to all promotional information. S. Hayden will also issue a press release and announce the band's participation on City's Facebook page.

There was discussion regarding the participation of the various flatbed bands. G. Shirk asked if we will pay the same amount to flatbed bands as last year, noting that some of the more popular (and larger) groups are paid more money. Following considerable discussion, a motion was made by E. Sowards and seconded by K. Garrison to pay the larger flatbed bands \$500.

B. Sowards asked about adding a pre-parade footrace. M. Chappell noted that years ago, a RIHS high school track coach organized such a race that started at 30<sup>th</sup> St. at 8 am. B. Sowards was encouraged to present the idea to any interested parties to organize. K. Whitey asked if any type of banners or flags could be added to the parade to dress it up. A question about balloons and the participation of the Bookmobile were also discussed.

D. Diaz shared he has been in discussion with Martin Luther King Community Center Staff on the return of the Dynamic Status group to the parade. D. Diaz was encouraged to follow up and to arrange a meeting that may lead to the return of the talented dancers to the line-up.

**6. Committee Membership and Volunteers**

M. Chappell reminded board members of the need to secure more volunteers for parade day.

**7. Misc. Items of Concern**

No items were presented.

**8. Public Comments**

No one from the public was present at the meeting.

**9. Adjournment**

With nothing further to discuss, a motion was made by D. Diaz and seconded by G. Shirk to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 12:55 pm.

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Respectfully submitted by Mary Chappell