

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
Spirit of Community Commission
Tuesday, December 10, 2019
7:00 PM

1.

**** This meeting will be held at Ted May's Residence: 916 Crossings Way, Delano. The meeting will allow commission members to interact socially. Light appetizers and beverages will be served.****

2. **AGENDA**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ted May at 7:40 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Members present: Janell Gildemeister, Theresa Green, Joe Kittok, Ted May, Becky Schauf

Liaison: Molly Fleming, Nick Neaton

Guests: None

C. Approval of Minutes

1. November 12, 2019

On a motion by Becky Schauf, seconded by Theresa Green, minutes of the November 12, 2019 meeting were approved.

D. Additions to the agenda

US Census Complete Count

E. Order of Business

1. Reflections of Old-Fashioned Christmas event

Theresa, Ted, and Chad Kestner staffed the SOCC booth during the December 7 event. They said there was heavy traffic throughout the event. The booth was very visible, in the lobby of City Hall.

At future events, one person should be dedicated to staffing the pin board.

SOCC members remarked on the high number of non-Delano residents they encountered at the booth.

When visitors to the booth express interest in volunteering, we should provide a list of volunteer opportunities and contact information.

2. Neighborhood ambassadors program

The SOCC revisited this idea, which had been discussed at early SOCC meetings. The City could solicit participants from National Night Out participants, as well as people who indicated their interest at Old-Fashioned Christmas. Neighborhood ambassadors would serve as a link between the City and its residents, by helping to communicate accurate information to residents.

Nick brought up the idea of a “Citizen’s Academy,” a program offered in some other Minnesota cities. SOCC members responded positively to this idea, as well as the idea of highlighting more volunteer opportunities with the City.

3. Home improvement fair update

The December 9 Delano Area Chamber of Commerce executive board meeting was postponed to December 16. Becky Schaust will attend on behalf of the SOCC and report back at the January meeting.

4. US Census Count Committee Update

Molly stated that the SOCC is now registered as a complete count committee with the U.S. Census, which enables the City to apply for a \$750 grant for publicizing census participation.

Noting that apartments and multi-unit houses are some of the most difficult places for census workers to reach, Molly said she will look into how Delano City Council may be able to create an ordinance to approve census workers to enter these buildings on official business.

The City will also ask Gabe Licht to write an article sharing the benefits of an accurate census count.

5. Other Business

F. Adjournment

On a motion by Janell and seconded by Becky, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 7:00 p.m. at Delano City Hall