



MINUTES/February 13, 2023

Norwalk Hometown Pride convened at 6:40 p.m. Monday, February 13, 2023, at Luana Savings Bank in Norwalk. Attending were Tina Robinson, Chad Smith, Kim Fairley, Nichole Swisher, Chris Swisher, Jackson Zeigler, Kylee Schroeder and Judy Corcoran. Michelle Lippert attended by GoogleMeet. Minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2023, were approved on motion by Tina, seconded by Chad. Lucinda Sperry represented Warren County Economic Development as an HTP resource.

As treasurer, Michelle reported she has filed the organization's 1099 form with the Internal Revenue Service and is working on Form 990 for tax reporting. A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled by Zoom. Members are Tina, Nichole, Deanna Gingrich and Michelle. Kim reported she now has access to the HTP checking account at City State Bank. The committee will report financial information at the March meeting. Michelle also said Hometown Pride needs to determine if it should have a State of Iowa gambling license for activities such as the 50/50 raffle at Music Fest. Previously HTP has used the license of the Norwalk Lions Club. Michelle will resign from the board after financial reporting is completed. The board accepted her resignation on motion by Tina, seconded by Jackson. The committee discussed names of potential volunteers who might be recruited for treasurer duties. Following discussion, on motion by Tina, seconded by Kylee, the board voted to confirm Nichole and Tina as authorized to sign checks on behalf of Norwalk Hometown Pride.

In new business, Jackson reported the updated Hometown Pride website has been launched. He continues to seek photos and welcomes information and ideas for content on the site. The site is hosted on a service charging \$12 a year.

The committee began preliminary discussion for Music Fest '23, set for Sunday, September 3, at City Park. Chad and Tina are recruiting committee members and a kickoff planning meeting was set for Monday, February 27. As the event has drawn more attention in the Metro, Chad said that the committee will look beyond bands and musicians with Norwalk ties. He said the planners will continue to present a variety of musical styles and performers with a goal of identifying performers for full committee review by the first or second week of March. A decision also is pending on the need to hire an external vendor to handle alcohol sales and logistics at the event.

The group had a lengthy discussion to prepare for a Norwalk Hometown Pride presentation before Norwalk City Council on March 2 to mark Hometown Pride's fifth anniversary and to share successes with Council members. Board members are providing data to Judy who will draft notes for presenters Tina and Nichole. Besides notes for the presenters, Judy said a handout might be needed to show City Council the extensive projects and impact of HTP in its five years. The HTP presentation is on the official agenda for City Council which will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 2, at City Hall and HTP members are encouraged to attend. Judy explained the Council often has a work session preceding a Council meeting and if that session is completed early, the Council can move immediately into its regular meeting so guests should plan on arriving at City Hall by at least 5:45 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 20, to avoid Spring Break conflicts.

Judy Corcoran/Secretary