



Norwalk Hometown Pride
MINUTES
September 19, 2022

Norwalk Hometown Pride convened at 6:08 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2022, at City State Bank in Norwalk. Attending were Deanna Gingrich, Lucinda Sperry, Tina Robinson, Christie Petersen, Jordyn Hill, Kim Fairley, Michelle Lippert, Kylee Schroeder and Judy Corcoran and Lorin Ditzler of Warren County Hometown Pride. Minutes of the meeting of June 28, 2022, were approved on motion by Lucinda, seconded by Jordyn.

The group debriefed the September 4 Norwalk Music Fest event and an additional debrief of the larger committee is planned. Discussion covered

- Problems with the restrooms at the park which were not built for such large audiences; future groups will be required to provide portable toilets.
- Church service preceding the event, sponsored by the Norwalk Area Ministerial Association, was popular and prompted many to stay for the opening performer. Additional promotion would draw more to the event.
- Expenses for event insurance need to be allocated between Hometown Pride and the Norwalk Area Chamber of Commerce. Insurance costs included \$133 for insurance on the golf carts as well as for the beverage tent.
- Options for an external vendor to operate a beer tent or similar site in the park were discussed. Tina was to contact one potential vendor.

Michelle reported end of the fiscal year is September 30; she hopes to complete reporting during October. She also reported a third campaign for donations for engraved pavers is under way for the Veterans Memorial with a deadline of October 15 to assure engravings can be done by end of the year. The group also reviewed previous minutes which noted plans to allocate \$2,000 to the Cumming American Legion Post for upkeep of Memorial.

Christie led discussion of the Lights of Love event and options for locations, marketing and supplies needed to build upon the successful 2021 event which featured 31 live trees decorated by sponsors in honor of others. On motion by Deanna, seconded by Tina, the committee voted to allocate up to \$2,500 to fund the event. Donations from sponsors are expected to remain at \$100 a tree. Several committee members will gather information on potential locations.

Follow up items include reporting due in January on results of a grant from Warren County Philanthropic Partnership to fund the purchase of new benches for City Park. Lucinda mentioned results of a citizen survey of a proposed North River Arts District for northern Warren County should be available soon.

The committee acknowledged Lorin Ditzler for her support as coach of Norwalk Hometown Pride since its beginning as she moves into a new stage of her career.

The next Hometown Pride meeting will be Monday, October 10. The committee adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Judy Corcoran
Norwalk Hometown Pride Secretary