



City of Berkeley
Betterment Commission
June 5, 2024
4pm on Zoom

The Meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm on Wed, June 5, 2024.

Members Present: Will Bayless, Tracy Cole, Jean Holmes, Darlene Randle, Ebony Shaw, Fatima Shurm, Shirley Terry, Brenda Williams, DeBora White

Old Business:

- Approval of minutes: Motion to approve given by Jean Holmes and seconded by Shirley Terry.
- Shirts have been ordered for committee members.
- Information was obtained from Ebonee Shaw for the company to host November 9, 2024, Trivia Night. The company started at a minimum price of \$700.00 to host the event. No one else provided any other details or information for the event.
- The committee agreed to have another pop-up event in Dec 2024; the date to be determined. Jean Holmes is not available on December 21, 2024. It was noted that we should start promoting this event in August/Sept 2024. We need to decide if square tables will be used for the capacity at 160 people. Or if we use round tables at 120-person capacity.
- A date needs to be picked out for the Christmas Toy Give-A-Way at City Hall.

New Business: The Ice Cream Social was discussed in detail in this meeting. Prior to this meeting, Tracy Cole asked for a date, time, and could she secure the vendor for a bounce house. On Sat, June 8, 2024, the Ice Cream Social will be held at the Civic Center. There will be a raffle of smart televisions, 50/50 raffle, games, and prizes.

Darlene Randle brought up the idea of having a Mayor's Ball at the Civic Center. Details included a price of \$25.00 per ticket, asking Berkeley residents, Berkeley staff, and Mayors of near by municipalities to attend this function. Fundraising ideas of selling ads in a booklet of people who own a business and sell sponsorship packages. This idea has been tabled until 2025/2026 due to wanting to hold it in the new community center that will hopefully open in 2025/2026 in Berkeley, MO.

Meko Robinson brought up the idea that we do monthly events in the Civic Center once a month for the community. The activities were brought up of a dance class or an exercise class led by an instructor. Meko asked if the City of Berkeley would help cover the cost of the instructor and we charge a small fee for residents and non-residents attending. Meko would like to see childrens' activities once a month. Meko is willing to give her time and provide the games for

the children to play. We need to follow up on available dates for the Civic Center this summer to make this happen.

Meko brought to the committee a Back-To-School event. It would be haircuts for boys and it was undecided on what service we could offer little girls. No date has been determined as of yet. It was noted that school starts on Monday, August 19, 2024. Other events brought to the committee were Hot Chocolate with Santa and pictures taken. This can be something that's added to the Toy Giveaway in December 2024.

Best Yard for Berkeley Residents: It was undecided how this should be handled. Should there be a \$50.00 gift card for each person? How many people will receive the gift card per ward? In the past two people were assigned this in the past. This recognition ran from June to August in the past. DeAnna Jones said she would provide us with the map showing the wards that each street falls under.

The question was raised on if we had a Facebook page or any type of social media page and the answer was "no". This topic will be resumed in next month's meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:00 PM

Next Meeting: Wed, July 3, 2024, at 4:00 PM.