

Jaycees Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 14, 2024

Start Time: 7:36 PM

Location: American Legion

Attendees: Dave S, Simon B, Bob G, Kyle M, Anthony P, Sergio B, and 16 additional members (total 22 members present).

Agenda Items

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Welcome and President's Comments

- President Dave S introduced new member Matt Toto, who grew up in Madison.
- Announced that Brian L will be taking over as President.
- Dave thanked the board for their dedication and hard work, noting that the organization has gained much-needed structure. Each event now has a chairperson and is running more independently.
- Highlighted that two previously underperforming events—the Egg Hunt and Trunk or Treat—have not only improved but are now contributing positively to the general fund.
- Introduced a new event, Oktoberfest, which Dave believes has great potential for future success.
- Announced plans to focus on the “Blue Collar Scholar” program in January.

3. Event Reports

- **Stuff a Truck (Dave):**

Total spent: \$1,743.00. Purchases included two shop vacs and supplies from Costco and Home Depot. Donations were delivered to Whippany for shipment to North Carolina.
- **Trunk or Treat (Dave & Amanda):**
 - Sponsorship from Open Road Cadillac secured for the next two years.
 - Event netted \$1,522.00.
 - Open Road Cadillac expressed interest in hosting in the future but membership suggested a more central location due to traffic concerns.
 - Well-attended by families and children.
 - Plans to include more food trucks, including ice cream, next year.
 - Committee to explore using the Holy Family lot for next year's event.
 - Three winners were awarded PS5 and gift card prizes. Jerry won second place with his Trump-themed McDonald's trunk.
 - Future event to feature a "Best Costume" category.
- **Oktoberfest (Sergio & Phil):**
 - Trying to set up a meeting with Brothers to deliver a check and discuss using their lot for next year's event.

- John S suggested additional work on the grounds as a community gesture.

4. Upcoming Events

- **Bike Raffle (Tree Lot):**
 - Tickets are selling well, and the event is nearing the break-even point. A total of 90 tickets need to be sold.
 - No contest for most tickets sold this year, but last year's top seller was Brian L.
- **Tree Lot (John):**
 - John handed out Tree Lot shirts.
 - Plans for a "Fry Night" and "Carnivore Night" at the lot.
 - The tree lot will again be at the old AAA lot, and 275 Frasier Fir trees have been ordered.
 - E-bike raffle will be held on December 14th at 5:00 PM.
 - Santa will be available for photos on December 7th.
 - Sponsors will be present at the tree lot.
 - Plans to light up a tree at the lot, with John S attempting to secure a professional sponsor for the lighting.
 - Lot work schedule has been sent out, and members are encouraged to sign up for shifts.
 - **Key Dates:**
 - Shed arrival, Port-a-Jon, and electric set-up to be completed prior to tree arrival on Saturday, November 23rd.
 - Meeting at the lot at 7:30 AM with two trucks and two drivers for tree delivery.

5. New Business

- **Blue Collar Scholarships (Dave):**
 - Starting in January, Dave will devote time to expanding the Blue Collar Scholarships program with an emphasis on community outreach.
- **Community Outreach (John):**
 - John suggested expanding the organization's community involvement beyond just scholarships. Possible opportunities include partnering with organizations such as Seniors Helping Seniors.
- **Another Event**
 - Anthony mentioned He would like to see the Jaycess do another event. No suggestions on what that would be.
- **Event Chairs for 2025:**

The following event chairs were confirmed:

 - **Egg Hunt:** Jerry (replacing Barry)
 - **Car Show (May 3rd):** Nick G
 - **Blood Drive:** Don Q (working with the Library for the date)
 - **4th of July Parade:** Simon B
 - **Oktoberfest:** Sergio & Phil (Co-chairs)
 - **Trunk or Treat:** Amanda

- **Tree Lot:** John & Dave (Co-chairs)
- **Raffle:** Bob G

6. **Christmas Party**

- The annual Christmas Party is scheduled for **December 14th, 2024, at 7:00 PM.**
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Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at **9:09 PM.**
 - Dave thanked everyone for their participation.
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Minutes submitted by: Sergio (Secretary)

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