



**CELEBRATE MANSFIELD FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Minutes

Attendance: Chair Emily Wicks, Sarah Dufresne, Kyle Muncy

Staff: Denise Kegler

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM.

2. Public comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approve Minutes from April 14, 2021

Kyle Muncy made a motion to approve the motion and Sarah Dufresne seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Review UConn Campus Schedule and Finalize Festival Rain Date

Mr. Muncy reviewed the campus schedule with the Committee. While there are Homecoming activities planned for the week of October 10, there does not seem to be a significant conflict for the date of October 9. He suggested that the Committee move forward with the rain planned rain date. Ms. Dufresne made a motion to confirm the Rain Date of October 9 and Mr. Muncy seconded the motion. **The Rain Date of Oct. 9 was approved unanimously.**

5. Review Site Plans and Discuss Health & Safety Best Practices

Ms. Kegler presented two options for the event site plan: the first with several changes to adapt for social distancing and one-way directional flow and the second in the traditional format for this event.

Based on the current relaxing of health & safety restrictions, Mr. Muncy proposed that the Committee revert to planning in the traditional event format with full capacity. As he described, it is hard to predict with 100% certainty but it seems very unlikely that restrictions will significantly backtrack in the months leading up to this event in the fall. And if rules continue to relax, there will be little need to institute the restrictions that we are discussing. For simplicity, he suggested that we move forward with only one set of plans for a full event. **The Committee agreed with his suggestion and supported this change in planning for the remainder of 2021. Ms. Kegler will discontinue the practice of planning multiple drafts with possible health & safety restrictions but will continue to monitor health & safety notifications from the State.**

6. Review Applications for Activity Booth, Craft Booth, & Food Booth

Ms. Kegler presented the current drafts for booth applications, including Activity Booths, Food Booths, and new Craft Booths. The Committee approved the drafts with no edits required. With these applications, Ms. Kegler will begin outreach to potential Activity Booths, Food Booths, and Craft Booths.

7. Brainstorm Low-Cost Celebratory Activities

Ms. Kegler suggested that the team brainstorm low-cost activities that could enhance the event, especially considering the challenges of 2020. Several ideas developed from the brainstorm session:

- Ms. Kegler proposed a collaborative sidewalk chalk artwork with squares provided for families to create their own designs.
- Ms. Dufresne suggested that dog demonstrations by Central K9, a Mansfield-located dog training business.
- Ms. Dufresne suggested a community poem project with large easel-sized pages prepared with specific mad-libs style poem prompts. These completed poem pages can then be displayed or combined into a larger, collaborative poem.

The Committee supported all of these ideas and agreed that they should be pursued for the event.

Ms. Dufresne offered to contact Central K9 to discuss demonstrations at the event. Ms. Kegler will update the Festival site plan to include space for these activities.

8. Adjourn

Ms. Dufresne made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Muncy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Minutes prepared by Denise Kegler