

## Echo Volunteer Committee meeting minutes September 4<sup>th</sup>

1. Discuss reasons to form volunteer committee: To have a group of people to help maintain public spaces, make public spaces available to the community, and to have the community take ownership of community spaces. Also to encouraged the community to utilize these space frequently.

2. Identify public spaces in Echo to utilize: George Park (behind city hall), Ft. Henrietta park (by the river), upstairs of City Hall, the old VFW Hall and the masonic building? Pam to make a list of public spaces and fees if they apply for use.

3. What are the activities/events our community wants/needs: Do a small survey in next month's newsletter. Leave copies at H&P and Coffee House. Offer a small list of possible events (bingo, game night, tot time, yoga). People to rate which ones they most likely would attend. Pam and Kathy working on survey.

The Halloween Party is a yearly event Echo has had for some time now. Would like to keep this going. Jessie got word from Peggy at City Hall that Diane Berry and Jeanie Hampton have put the party on in the past, and does not think they will do it this year. Jessie to talk with Jeanie Hampton to find out for sure.

Have a game night October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the VFW Hall. People can play card games and/or board games. Pam, Jessie and Kathy to bring a refreshment. Jessie to let Peggy know so she can put it on the calendar.

Have some medical event like flu clinic or blood pressure screening..... Jessie to ask Chad Ray if Bi-mart would be able to come out and do flu clinic. Have volunteers get area ready for flu clinic

Jessie offered to do a blood pressure clinic.

Ask Echo public works guys if they would do something on winterizing homes.

Have a bingo night later in the year. Need volunteers to put on Bingo, get prizes/donations and set up area.

Work in conjunction with Standfield. Try to have our activities on different nights from Standfield activities. This way people from Echo can attend Standfield activities/events and people form Standfield can attend Echo activities/events.

Brain storming for future events: host "hobbie" event meet ups. Some examples are quilter groups, writers groups, something during Round-up week for people to visit our town and use our spaces to generate funds. These are ideas for down the road when we have public spaces "turn key" ready to use and a group of volunteers to manage the spaces.

4. What does the committee need to do to get our public spaces ready usable? List all spaces, list fees if they apply to spaces, get inventory of what we have at each space, have an idea of things that need

fixed so spaces are in working order. Have an idea of what things need to be done to maintain these area.

5. Halloween party volunteers needed: as mentioned above past Halloween parties put on by Diane and Jeanie. Not sure if they will be putting on this year's party. Jessie to find out. Party has been upstairs of City Hall and usually last 1 hour. Hotdogs, chips and drink served. Costume contest with prizes, game stations for kids.

6. Ways to work with the school: offer volunteer hours/certificate and/or credit hours for kids who volunteer. Hoping for their input on how they would like to use public spaces. Have public spaces available for youth to use so they have other options other than sports, FFA and 4-H if they are not interested in these activities.

7. Next meeting October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm at VFW Hall

8. Group name: Echo Volunteer Committee (does someone else have a cleverer name?)

9. Group motto/logo: did not discuss

10. Other thoughts from group: Need a good way to communicate with group members and get the word out to the community and other groups are ready established in community. Talked about having a community board or one that is easier to read than the one at the post office. Use Facebook, city newsletter, city website.

Have group members and kids from school help out members in the community with yard work who may need help for whatever reason

Use community development funds to pay school kids to work on areas around town (beautification projects), tackle the goat-head issue

Have murals painted on buildings around town like the post office.

Meeting attendees: Kathy Thew, Richard Thew, Jay Wyse, Pam Reese, Jessie Holben.

Agenda taken to PTO meeting (Thank you Marie) and discussed there.