

# **ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC**

**646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947**

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

**Present:** Deb Orchard, Chair, Gwen Grace, Vice-Chair, Annemarie D'Abrosca, Secretary, Karen Harvey, Board Liaison, Nadine Clough, Editor, West Ways Newsletter, Rita Lopienski, Donna Stogsdill, Andy Van Scyoc, Merrill Horswill

**Absent:** Barry Kean, Denise Slovenski

#### **Guests in Attendance:**

Grace Checutie, Maureen Mallonee Larderer, Sam Besase

Derrick Hedges, RWA Manager

Joe Harris, IT Technician

The Meeting was called to order by Chair, Deb Orchard at 9:30 AM

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Andy Van Sycoc moved to approve the December, 2023 minutes, seconded by Gwen Grace. Motion approved.

#### **2. MEMBER INPUT**

- Deb announced that Karen is now our Board Liaison and welcomed Merrill Horswill to her first Outreach Committee Meeting.
- Grace spoke about creating Standard Operating Procedures for flyers announcing Community Outreach events. She said RWA staff and Joe Harris will add information to Constant Contact if additional event information is added after the flyers have been sent out. Grace also said that National Walk Your Dog Day is approaching (February 22) and asked Nadine if West Ways will publish all pictures submitted of RWA residents walking their dogs. Nadine replied in the affirmative.

- Derrick mentioned that for the Fall RWA Open House, staff will send out postcard announcements to residents who have moved into Rotonda since the last RWA Open House. Committee members agreed thanked Derrick and agreed that was a great idea.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

- Deb spoke about rules for bringing suggested community events to the Board of Directors for approval. An event that does not require money for staff time does not need to be brought before the Board. Events needing Community Center setup do not incur staff costs if setup and take down occur between 8am and 4 pm.
- If there is an event in the planning stage, the event organizer should call Annette to pencil in a date on the RWA calendar. The earlier the better.
- The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held on February 25, 2024. It was decided that each Rotonda West Committee would be asked to nominate a Volunteer of the Year and an informal group would be created to decide on the recipient of the award.
- The Spring Community Garage Sale was approved for March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024. Rita is the lead on this event.

### **4. ACTION REPORTS**

#### **a. WEST WAYS NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY**

- Nadine said she will be highlighting the description and activities of RWA Committees in future issues of West Ways.

#### **b. CONSTANT CONTACT**

- Registrations: Total number of contacts is 5,061
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **c. BINGO**

- Sunday 1/21 Annemarie and Gwen volunteered to help out and Deb said she would help out if needed.
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **d. MUSIC IN THE PARK**

- The Rotonda West Ukulele Band February 5, 2024 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **e. SHRED-IT DAY**

- Saturday January 27, 2024 9AM-NOON  
Donna, Denise, Gwen and Nadine volunteered. Gwen will create a flyer  
Non-perishable food donations will benefit St. David's Jubilee Center
- Follow up at next meeting.

#### **f. TRIVIA NIGHT WITH TIM**

- 2/1 @ 6:30pm

#### **g LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- **Rotonda Nature** Merrill Horswill is trying to schedule a presentation by the Charlotte County Extension Office with the topic of "Florida Friendly Gardening and Landscaping". Grace spoke about wanting short bios of all presenters and lecturers to add to flyers. Merrill is also planning a bird watching for March 30.
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **h. Health and Wellness**

- Rotonda Emergency Preparedness will conduct CERT Training with AED on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 pm.
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **i. MEET & GREET**

- There will be a meet and greet on January 23, 2024
- Follow up at next meeting

#### **j. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET**

- Nadine is working on this and gathering names for invitations and for Volunteer of the Year Award.
- Follow up at next meeting

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

- There was a general discussion regarding the 2023 Christmas Events and planning for the future. Maureen brought up the problem of Grinches and Santas and Karen said she could help with that. All in all it was felt that the Holiday Stroll and cookies was a great

success bringing children and their parents into Rotonda. The dates of the Boat Parade and Santa Parade conflict with local Englewood events possibly resulting in lower attendance so more thinking needs to be done about this.

- It was agreed that having the children in to sing at the Holiday Stroll was enjoyable and Karen led a brainstorming discussion about having child focused events such as an outdoor movie night at the Community Center.
- The last topic of the meeting was about having an informational “Town Hall” type of meeting for RWA residents about the proposed new residential complex to tentatively be built across from Parade Circle. Annemarie spoke about RWA residents feelings about Section 8 housing and their concerns about crime and property values. More research will to be done on this issue before considering a date for a presentation.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

- The Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM