

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 7, 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, Merrill Horswill, Denise Slovenski

Absent: Barry Kean, Andy Van Sycoc

Guests in Attendance:

Annette Casteel Administrator

Joe Harris, IT Technician

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Gwen Grace moved to approve the January, 2024 minutes, seconded by Nadine Clough. Motion approved.

2. MEMBER INPUT

- Deb handed out copies of the Outreach Committee budget for 2024.
- Karen Harvey mentioned that there will be a ribbon cutting for the new patio on February 15 at 4:00 pm.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- Annemarie followed up on her meeting with Derrick concerning rumors of Section 8 being built in Rotonda and scheduling a Public Informational Forum. It is too early to schedule this as permits have not been pulled for any building. When it is needed, the Board of Directors will handle it.

4. ACTION REPORTS

a. WEST WAYS NEWSLETTER FOR February

- Nadine thanked everyone for writing their articles and doing a great job of getting them to her promptly.

b. CONSTANT CONTACT

- Registrations: Total number of contacts is 5,080.
- 152,513 emails were sent with a 52% open rate.
- Follow up at next meeting

c. BINGO

- 75 people attended the January Bingo \$50 was collected for Meals on Wheels
- Bingo is scheduled for February 18th. Committee Volunteers will be Karen, Deb and Rita.
- Follow up at next meeting

d. MUSIC IN THE PARK

- The Rotonda West Ukulele Band was attended by approximately 90 people and a good time was had by all.
- Michael White is scheduled to perform on 2/15 and Northport Showcase will perform on 3/21. A motion was made to have a Dance Party with Eric Stephanik on April 8 by Nadine and seconded by Gwen.
- Follow up at next meeting

e. SHRED AND SHARE DAY

- Saturday January 27, 2024 9AM-NOON
Donna, Denise, Gwen and Nadine volunteered. Gwen reported that 300 nonperishable food donations and \$90 in cash were collected for St. David's Jubilee Center.
- The feeling among committee volunteers was that many people brought business papers to be shred when the event was supposed to be for personal items for Rotonda residents. Some did not bring items to donate and seemed not to know the process for participation in the event. And requiring a minimum donation for future Shred and Share days was discussed.
- Karen mentioned that Helping Hand is having a similar event shortly and she will report on their practices at the next meeting

f. TRIVIA NIGHT WITH TIM

- 2/1 @ 6:30pm 127 people attended Trivia Night. The Outreach Budget is \$250.00 per Trivia night with \$150.00 going to Tim and \$100 distributed in prizes. The Committee discussed the frequency of the event given its popularity. It was decided to keep them at one per month. March Trivia is scheduled for the 7th. Annemarie made a motion to schedule Trivia for April, May and June seconded by Rita.

g LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Rotonda Nature** Merrill Horswill scheduled a presentation by the Charlotte County Extension Office called "Florida Friendly Gardening and Landscaping" for 3/13 and there will be a Guided Birdwatching event on 3/30. Made made a motion to accept these dates. It was seconded by Nadine.
- Merrill is working on scheduling a presentation with Jason Thompson on Invasive Plant species. Donna said Jason's presentation on Pythons was well attended and very interesting.

h. Health and Wellness

- Outreach Committee members are encouraged to attend the Rotonda Emergency Preparedness CERT Training with AED on March 27th from 6:30-8:30 pm.
- Merrill and Rita discussed having chair yoga and stand aerobics in the Community Center. They are looking into possible dates. if scheduling is a problem, they might be able to be held outdoors.
- A motion was made by Rita and seconded by Annemarie to look into scheduling a presentation by Englewood Hospital Health and Nutrition office.
- Follow up at next meeting

i. MEET & GREET

- There will be a Meet and Greet on February 23, 2024 and March 26, 2024.
- Follow up at next meeting

j. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET

- Nadine sent out 120 invitations to the Banquet. It looks like the event will come in under budget.
- Follow up at next meeting

5. NEW BUSINESS

- The Christmas Parade will be held on December 7. Gwen made a motion to accept this date and Donna seconded it.
- More planning is yet to come but at this moment someone is needed to set up the logistics of the day.
- Karen previously sent out templates to committee members of the banners that will be used to decorate the subdivision parks. There was a discussion about whether to use “Merry Christmas” or “Happy Holidays”. A vote was taken which ended in a tie. Deb contacted Barry and Andy after the meeting and they voted for “Merry Christmas”.
- Deb received an email from RWA resident Linda Felix who expressed interest in becoming a member of the Outreach Committee. There are presently 10 Committee members and there is one position open. Deb will follow up with Linda

6. ADJOURNMENT

- The Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM