

**MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE
CITY OF CAYCE
September 8, 2011**

Present: Tammy Barkley (City Representative), Brenda Cole, Mendy Corder (City Representative), Danny Creamer, Julie Isom, Ellen Mancke, Frankie Newman, Cindy Pedersen, and Rachel Scurry

Absent: Pete Cassidy (unexcused) and Mike Henderson (unexcused)

Chairperson Julie Isom called the meeting to order. The minutes from the August 11, 2011, meeting were reviewed and approved.

Congaree Bluegrass Festival

Chairperson Isom called on Tammy to lead the discussion on the festival. Tammy and Mendy visited Augusta, GA, in order to view the billboards. Tammy distributed pictures of the billboards, and she suggested that we consider using another vendor for next year. She also suggested a close review of this year's zip codes and consideration of alternate locations for billboards for next year.

Listed below are items discussed which are related to the upcoming festival.

- Media coverage to-date includes *The Cayce-West Columbia News* and *Lexington Chronicle*. John Banks, West Metro Chamber, has arranged for advertisements in the Charlotte and Augusta newspapers.
- Materials have been distributed to the SC Welcome Centers. Multiple web sites have links to the festival activities.
- Most vendor fees and sponsorships have been received.
- Radio station 94.3 has agreed to act a radio sponsor.
- Danny, Julie, and Dr. Cassidy are available for interviews on talk shows.
- The master-of-ceremonies is Pat Ahrens.
- Mast General Store General Manager Ruth Smyrl offered to host a small group of Bluegrass performers on Saturdays at the store to help promote the festival.
- Officer Rucker and the Explorers troop will coordinate parking. The trolley and golf carts have been reserved.
- Steep Canyon Rangers will call ahead of arrival so that they can park near the museum.
- Frankie has arranged for BCHS students to sing the National Anthem during the opening ceremonies. Frankie will forward their biographical information to Tammy.
- Cayce Farmers' Market will be donating flowers, hay bales, and pumpkins for decorating.
- Tammy mentioned that we have fewer volunteers this year. Julie suggested contacting members of other city committees about volunteering for the festival. Volunteers are needed to assist with set-up on Friday, September 30 and during the festival on Saturday. Committee members volunteered for time slots for the various tasks on Saturday.

Tammy and Mendy will forward the finalized list to the volunteers and assignments to committee members.

- Julie agreed to arrange for the use of her father's truck as a transport vehicle. Tammy will secure an egg crate mattress for the truck bed.
- Danny informed the committee that Bill Wells is very ill. In addition, several other band members' health is poor. Therefore, Bill Wells and The Blueridge Mountain Grass will not be able to perform at the festival. When Bill contacted Danny, Bill requested that the Sugar Loaf Mountain Boys replace his group. Bill may be able to attend the festival for a short time. If so, the Committee would like to recognize Bill and his band. The gazebo will be set-up for Bill Wells and his band as an observation post.
- We agreed to present a plaque to Bill, or his representative, recognizing Bill's lifetime contribution to Bluegrass music as well as the Congaree Bluegrass Festival. The presentation by Julie with the Committee present will be at 11 a.m. Danny and Julie will collaborate on the wording for the plaque, which will feature the Congaree Bluegrass Festival logo. This year's festival will be dedicated to Bill Wells and the Blueridge Mountain Grass. Tammy suggested naming the stage the "Bill Wells Stage" and arranging for a sign for the stage for next year's festival.
- Danny will forward recent promotional pictures of the Sugar Loaf Mountain Boys to Tammy and Julie. Julie will update the Congaree Bluegrass Festival website. Tammy and Mendy will arrange to update the black and white festival flyers.
- Danny and Cindy will coordinate the presentation of a Congaree Bluegrass Festival afghan to Bill. Cindy will check on the possibility of an Order of the Palmetto presentation by the Governor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel R Scurry, Secretary