

## OHCC Meeting Minutes Tuesday August 8, 2023

1. Approved prior meeting minutes.
2. Select Board – *Lauren Swartzbaugh* mentioned that there was nothing discussed at the recent SB meeting pertaining to the CC. But she noted that the climate resiliency group has received a grant that could potentially be used to create a community garden.
3. **Treasurers Report** – *Robin White* updated the group on the Commission’s financial status.
4. **Website** - *Stuart Rich* reported 380 website visits during each of the past 2 months.
5. **Next Months Meeting Facilitator** – *TBD*
6. **Survey for Town Meeting** - *Kathryn DerMarderosian* reviewed questions from several past surveys. She noted that previous questionnaires inquired about trails, their development and usage. For 2023, she would like to focus on concerns of young families. *Robin White* noted that our inquiries should include actionable topics within the purview of OHCC.  
*Beth Long* described *Deena Carrafelli’s* plan to organize a public supper that would provide OH civic groups a venue to meet with residents and potentially recruit members and or volunteers. Everyone agreed that this is a great idea. Dates mentioned included September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>. *Deena* is looking for help with the event and a donation from each participating group.
7. **OH Library Donation** – The group decided to donate several books by *Sy Montgomery* including *Soul of an Octopus* to the OH Library in recognition of their support of the Commission.
8. **Plaisted Pumpkin Walk** – *Beth Long* asked the group to weigh in on holding another Halloween Pumpkin walk at Plaisted. The group agreed that Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> were the best dates. *Beth* is concerned about the speed of traffic on North Shore Drive and the safety of the participating children. She will contact the Sheriff and ask for his advise and investigate the cost to have a deputy present during the event. The CC members agreed to pay for the deputy.
9. **Community Resilience Partnership (CRP)** – *Kathryn DerMarderosian* mentioned that *Meg Rasmussen* of CRP had contacted her to discuss available grants that OHCC might want to pursue. *Kathryn* will email *Meg* and ask her to provide additional information concerning the grants.
10. **Dark Sky Program** – *Beth Long* and *Claire Raymond* explained to the group what they learned about the **Dark Sky Program**. *Beth* also mentioned that she hopes to meet with the woman who pioneered this effort and find out if she is available to speak at a future event.
11. **School Programs** - The group discussed the best ways to organize programs to reach students in both traditional classrooms and those schooled at home. Also mentioned was the need to involve students in middle school and high school; evening programs could accommodate a broader range of ages.

**Attendees**

Kathryn DerMarderosian

Beth Long

Stuart Rich

Robin White

Jim Devery

Claire Raymond

Lauren Swartzbaugh

**Next Meeting: Tuesday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the OH Library**