



Village of Downs

211 S. Seminary, PO Box 18

Downs, IL 61736-0018

Voice: 309-378-3221

Email: Info@VillageOfDowns.org

Website: www.VillageOfDowns.org

Village President, Village Board and Clerk

Village President	Public Safety / President Pro	Public Works	Finance / Services / FOIA Officer	Streets	Building	Parks/Youth Center/Food Pantry	Clerk
Mike James	Maureen Roach	Toby Twyford	Anna Milliken	Brian Warfel	Sarah Gassaway	Stephanie Adkisson	Julie James

Events Committee Regular Meeting

November 12th, 2024

6:00 pm @ Village Hall

1. Call to Order 6:04 pm
2. Roll Call
 - a. Erik Rasmussen, Cyndi Miller, Julie James, Mike James, Stephanie Adkisson, Cali Whiteside, Randy Wert - Present
 - b. Steve Miller, Jessica Miskulin, Jill Kasprzak – Absent
 - c. Quorum was declared by Mike James
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Discussion
 - a. FY2025 Budget
 - a. Walked through all the budgets for each event
 - b. Freedom Run Recap – No report presented.
 - c. 4th of July Recap
 - a. Bounce Houses we free. Next year they are going to do wrist bands
 - b. Joe Wood – played for free during both bands
 - c. Leslie did a great job as DJ
 - d. Look to get a different dunk tank and good talk about how much fun it was – Volunteers need help
 - e. Vendors and donations were down – might be the FD. Need to get out advertising and information sooner
 - f. Talked about doing carnival rides and other activities
 - g. Staffing of the beer garden was not good this year. Needs to get better. Think about Viking Liquor or maybe Windjammer. Need better service and support to make this work.
 - h. Volleyball players in the tournament were bringing beer and alcohol into the park – Gareck helped shut it down
 - i. Talking about new vendors
 - j. Talked about sponsorship and how we need to change for future
 - d. Haunted House Recap
 - a. 4903 in attendance
 - b. Next year we need to raise the fee to \$15
 - c. 250 – 300 during the unhaunted day – messed up the wrist band counts. Need more wrist bands for next
 - d. Everything is winterized.

Other Positions and Committee Chairs

Police Chief
Josh Dingler

Public Works Supervisor
Jill Kasprzak

Treasurer/Budget Officer/TIF Administrator
Julie Bakewell

Zoning Enforcement
Lyndall Cuba

Zoning Board Chairperson
Linda Bowman

- e. Talked about working the haunt and the rooms. Too many outside
- f. Talked about what changing we would need to do next year.
- g. Stephanie liked the outside part
- h. Had several situations where kids were not supervised – under 16 must have a parent working in the same area
- i. Volunteers per night – 33, 29, 26, 36, 38, 39, 37, 38
- j. Next year we will have an extra night and possibly the first night in November. Talked about doing a special advertising for it. May need to run a special for Halloween.
- k. Talked about getting an “I survived Downs Haunted House”
- l. Date for the cast party is 1/25 @ the Station – Taco Bar
- m. Crying emoji was suggested
- e. Cookies with Santa Planning
 - a. 190 registered already
 - b. Jessica and Julie will be meeting to starting working on stuff for haunted house
 - c. Neil and Maureen for Sat night
 - d. Jill is doing either Sunday or Sat am
 - e. Photographer – Jessica is looking for someone
 - f. Setup starts – Monday 12/2 @ 5:30 pm
 - g. Stephanie is going to help Char with cookies
 - h. Need to ask church for caroling
 - i. Christmas lighting will be on Sat after Thanksgiving
- f. Other
 - a. Setup the uptown Christmas decorations
- 5. New Business
 - a. Motion to Approve June 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes (Julie / Jill 8-0)
 - b. Motion to Approve Donation to Park for Christmas Decorations (Stephanie / Cali 8-0)
 - i. \$1500 budgeted
- 6. Old Business
- 7. Motion to Adjourn at 7:51 pm (Stephanie / Randy 8-0)