

Marine Education Center Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

June 9, 2021 6:00 - 7:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting

Present: Members - Peter Linderoth, Ann Sklar, Brendan Lewis, Caroline Jaram

VoM Staff – Kyle Troy, Dan Sarnoff

Absent: Henry Davis

MEC AC Members update

- Doug resigned from the MEC AC due to time restraints. Peter thanked him in his absence for all his hard work.

MEC Staff Report and Updates from the Center

- Kyle provided a detailed staff report on operations at the MEC; both current and a recap from the previous meeting
 - o Programs are all going well. Camps start in 2 weeks. There are 5 staff and volunteers have been capped at 25.
 - o Floating wetlands – Cornell and SUNY Maritime are donating seeded oysters for the Harbor. Kyle is working with DEC re: permits. There is continued work ongoing prior to seeding the harbor. When a permit has been issued and seeding can go ahead it will be newsworthy.
 - o Boom is in the river – Girl Scout troop project. The Fire Dept donated old fire hoses for it. It will go out before the rain in the mouth of the Mamaroneck river for 24 hours. Liam will check it with the robot.

Subcommittee Projects

Advertising/Marketing/Communications

- Peter updated on this project. Focus Groups will be established – Peter, Henry and Jerry (Village Manager) will coordinate. Henry will be in touch with Andrew Sterlinger re: a short set of 5 questions to hand out after programs.

Speakers/Adult Learning

- Tent Talks
 - o Focus on speakers from the community. Ann has reached out to the Healthy Yards projects and June Wallach agreed to be our first speaker. Some logistical arrangements are required prior to confirming a date.

- Registration: Can we use sign up genius? A village email address is required to coordinate responses. Ann to contact Cliff at the Village to ask for an email address to be set up for this purpose.
- Permission for media attendance/promotion: Coordinate with Robert Ingenito at the Village.
- Approval of Flyer: Ann to share draft flyer with Kyle, Jerry, and Brendan for feedback.
- Food truck: to boost attendance, it would be beneficial to have the Pizza Vitale food truck located near the beach for the talk. Need to coordinate permission with Hason Pinto.
- Tent – location: while it would be ideal to hold the talks by the MEC, there isn't a large enough tent available that can be moved to that space. Possibility of using the tent on the beach and holding the talk there. It was noted that the MEC should have a large tent erected next to it in the summer months to allow programming to continue in wet weather and to provide a larger space for programs to take place. Could the Village be approached to provide a tent for next summer, 2022?
- Screen/projector: coordinate with Jason Pinto
- Recording of talk: LMC? Coordinate with Kyle and Dina Schmucker.
- Donations: While the MEC cannot actively solicit donations, a donation tank will be available should attendees wish to donate. They will not be asked, the tank will just be there.

Note: Due to the availability of speakers and the already busy schedule at Harbor Island Park it has since been decided to push back the first Tent Talk to May 2022. The hope is that a suitable tent will be able to be located by the MEC by then.

Friends of MEC

- Helen Rafferty has organized a fundraiser to be held at Half Time to raise funds specifically for the touch tank. There is a \$10k matching gift.
- This will take place on August 12.

Other Business

- Issue of standing water and the dumpster outside of the MEC was brought up – it would be good for the image of the MEC if the water could be cleaned up and the dumpster moved. Parks and Rec are working on the water issue. The dumpster is used daily by the fishermen and so it is unlikely that this will be moved. Peter will raise the issue with the Harbor Master Jeff Larusso and the Parks Foreman Jeff Ahne and see if there is a willingness to discuss a future move.

Next Meeting of the MECAC is scheduled for August 11, 2021 6:00 - 7:00 PM. A note will be sent prior to the meeting confirming if it will be held in person or via ZOOM.