



EDWARDSVILLE – SIUE COMMUNITY DESTINATION GROUP
May 19, 2020

Present: Chad Verbais Chair, Desiree Gerber, Cary Harvengt, Paul Pitts, Joel Hardman, Walter Williams Madelyn Walters, Doug Rohrer, Kim Durr, Tyler Manning

Absent: Cheryl Watson, Kaitlyn Kyle, Ronald Akpan

Chad opened the meeting at 5:05 pm

Recap of Events since March: Chad stated that the Food Truck Friday and High School Counselor Fly-in did not take place due to COVID-19. New footage for the video was not possible due to COVID-19, and the video was created with footage that had already been taken. Kim discussed the need to find ways for this committee to support the SIUE experience, and Tyler discussed that Kelly, the Transition Coordinator, was planning virtual events on Blackboard with the potential for small late night events.

The committee needs to rethink the way they do things and keep online support up-to-date with making additions to the City's website. It is likely we will never completely go back to the way we did things in the past, and that many virtual events have been successful.

Review of February Minutes: Motion to approve minutes: Doug Rohrer motioned, Tyler Manning seconded.

Financials: Doug Rohrer reported that the committee was beginning the fiscal year with \$10,000, and has spent \$917.74 on rally towels, which were supposed to be for Bike Illinois. The remaining amount in the budget is currently \$9,082.26.

Video: Chad reported that the video has been submitted to SIUE Marketing and approved. The video is normally a part of the Springboard event where parents take a bus tour and learn about the history of the City of Edwardsville and then their tour at the Wildey Theatre where they watch the video. It is not perfect, but given that new footage could not be obtained it still looks good and should get students and their parents excited about Edwardsville and will be posted on the Springboard site. The cost of the video was \$532.50. There was some discussion on whether there should be one video for students and another for parents or just one video directed at both. Madelyn and Kim thought one video was sufficient and cost effective.

Bike Illinois: Walt reported that this event has been canceled for 2020, but is scheduled to take place June 13-17 next year. The rally towels for this year's event will be used next year.

Doug's News: Doug announced that he was resigning/retiring from the committee at the end of June. He was thanked by the committee members for his service.

New Ideas for Community Traditions: Kim began by brainstorming ideas to bring the community and SIUE together quarterly, and members chimed in with ideas to engage young students. Committee members agreed that a virtual scavenger hunt would be a way to engage students in the community. Each committee member was asked to submit ten locations that the students should know about in Edwardsville no later than June 11. Madelyn thought that students could even help create this scavenger hunt. The goal is to conduct

the scavenger hunt in September for new students. Committee members were also asked to think of a prize for completion of the scavenger hunt, and drawstring bags were mentioned. Chad indicated that he would have Cheryl look into the drawstring bags.

Bring Campus into the Edwardsville Community Ideas: Tyler brought up the Alumni event, Cooking with Cougars, and thought this type of event could be something this committee could do. Walt has agreed to try to find an Edwardsville Chef to conduct an online cooking lesson focusing on a particular dish or meal.

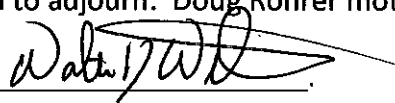
The committee is requesting that the City place a link to the Students Emergency Assistance Fund, as well as the Cougar Cupboard as an opportunity to collaborate and help those SIUE students in need. Kim reported that there are a significant number of international students in need of financial assistance because they cannot return home due to COVID-19. Tyler and Kim are sending the information and links to Cary to post on the EPL website and to Walt to post on the City's website.

Other: Tyler informed the committee that the student government elections took place and Madelyn is the new student President. Madelyn will be sharing the names of others newly elected in SIUE student government.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm: Motion to adjourn: Doug Rohrer motioned, Kim Durr seconded.

Signature: /s/Chad Verbais by staff liaison

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walt Verbais", written over a horizontal line.