

CCT Board Meeting Jan 11, 2025 at Alliance Tax Services

Attendees: Kari Wann, Vince Sutter, Ed Caryer, Angie Caryer, David Schroeder, Loretta Schroeder, Lloyd Eby, Dreama Eby, JR Adkins, and Mary Levy. **Excused Absence:** Denise Sutter, Deacon Caryer, Beth Renn, Richard Renn

Start of meeting: The meeting started at 6:01 pm at the Alliance Tax Services.

Minutes: Ed motioned to abstain from reading the minutes, seconded by Lloyd and motion was carried.

Elections: Elections were wide open for the position of President and Vice-President. Lloyd and David were nominated for both positions. Mary (Kate) was nominated for Treasurer and Vince was nominated for Secretary. After Ed counted the votes the following board members were elected:

President – Lloyd Eby

Vice-President – David Schroeder

Treasurer – Mary Levy

Secretary – Vince Sutter

St. Louis Trip: A lengthy discussion was held concerning the potential for attending the St. Louis conference/show for Christmas displays the last weekend in February. Dreama made the motion to skip St. Louis, was seconded by Angie, and the motion was carried.

Fireworks night change: Denise suggested that we change fireworks night from Sunday to Saturday in response to requests by our patrons. Denise noted that the fireworks company was able to support either night. Ed and Lloyd relayed additional interest to move the fireworks night up to Saturday. A vote was taken, and the change was unanimously approved to December 13th.

Santa: It was suggested that Santa be present every night that skating is available. This would require John to be Santa on December 28, 28 and 30th. We will contact John to verify and tentatively agree to have Santa on all nights that Skating is offered.

Lights Budget: The existing budget for lights (and other costs) was \$35k last year. The new Gumdrop lights cost added to exceed the budget. After discussions concerning the additional costs experienced this year, Angie made the motion to approve the display budget, which was seconded by Ed and was passed.

Boy Scouts: The scout leader(s) indicated that unfortunately they did not make enough to support providing food next year. The change in the contract is damaging the local Boy Scout troop due to activities being outside. Fat Pig also indicated that the outdoor venue and less customer activity would prevent them from providing food next year.

Treasurer's report: Kate (Mary) read the summary covering the balances as of the meeting. The expenses incurred (skating rink, trailers, etc. were included). The income from sponsorships, gates, etc. were also detailed. The potential cost of replacing the lift versus renting a lift was discussed. Ed motioned to accept the report, Kari seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Current voting members are as follows: Ed Caryer, Angie Caryer, Deacon Caryer, Kari Wann, Denise Sutter, Vince Sutter, David Schroeder, Loretta Schroeder, Dreama Eby, JR Adkins, Mary Levy, Beth Renn, Richard Renn. President Lloyd Eby is a tie breaking vote. Those indicating membership but not paying dues as of the meeting: John Fifer, Christina Schwiebert

Bingo: Kari provided a summary of the purse bingo over the past 2 years, the tickets sold each year, and her ability to continue to support the event. Options including continuing the purse bingo on the same data, moving the bingo to a different date, and cancelling the bingo for one year were discussed in detail. After an extensive discussion, David/Angie made a motion to skip bingo for one year, Kate seconded the motion, and it was carried. We will take one year off from purse bingo and revisit the event at the end of 2025.

Boom Lift: Lloyd provided a detailed accounting of the options he has investigated for replacing the boom lift. The cost of hiring outside contractors to take down when our lift was out of service was also covered. This required characteristics needed to set up and remove lights were reviewed. Lloyd has been in contact with Jeff Wyse (Wyse Equipment) to search for a suitable lift. Lloyd has also been looking independently. A discussion was helpful in weighing the options of continuing to rent a lift versus purchasing a lift. The timeline for purchasing a lift was also discussed. Ultimately it was decided to continue to search for a reliable lift and notify the board if a candidate is found so we can review the price/characteristics and vote on how to proceed.

Music: Input was requested for changes to the music since Richard had indicated that new songs were on the table for the 2025 season. Recommendations should be forwarded to the group chat early to provide maximum time for incorporation.

Display moves: Overall the patrons liked the fact that a number of displays were moved this year. Board members were also pleased with the changes. Suggestions were made to move the 'present' arch upstream to turn 3 to make it more visible and away from the movement of the tunnel. Making mounts for the tree wraps to expose the entire wrap and locating them adjacent to sheep barn was suggested. Other recommendations are encouraged as we plan for the 2025 season.

Pole Mounted Snowflakes: Feedback for the snowflake displays mounted on the poles was positive. This will be continued next season.

Christmas Cards: Moving cards to the parking lot was also a positive change. It was suggested that more cards be located in the parking lot up to the entrance shack. This will free up space on route and will provide displays for patrons in line.

Second Arch: The tunnel arches are of two configurations. It was suggested that the older arches be made into a second arch to be located in the main campground. New arches that match the later style could be made (same number of pixels/nodes to be compatible with existing Xlights programming).

FB Notification: Jerry Sanders was notified that the campground has been completely vacated, and work can begin with their electrical contractors. Jerry replied that he received the notification.

Quad: It was suggested that we consider selling the bison and purchasing a used domestic quad. For example, it was noted the Ron Beverly had a used quad for sale. Lloyd had noticed that unit was for sale. If something turns up, the board will be notified so we can vote on the next steps.

Road Lights: Vince had welded two of the road light stakes together to make longer stakes that could be used to elevate the road lights up and away from the rabbits. Rabbit damage has been a recurring problem requiring almost daily repairs. Lifting the light up an additional 9-inches will keep them above the reach of rabbits while not interfering with the line of sight of the displays. A few more will be welded with more discussion to follow.

DMX: Discussions have been taking place to add more DMX type displays. A tall, layered tree was discussed that would be the tallest display in the show. The standard LED lights would provide a more reliable display (vice the pixel displays). The search for a suitable tower will continue and work on the controller/programming will begin during the off season.

Next Meeting: The next CCT board meeting will be held on May 4th (first Sunday of the month).

Motion to Adjourn: Ed made a motion to adjourn; David seconded it, and the meeting ended at 8:37 PM.