

Hometown Action Team Minutes

February 6, 2025

Attendance: Denise Fletcher, Jeff Shaw, Mark McFate, Dorothy Zmolek, Karen Mixdorf, Larry Thomas, Katherine Ollendieck, Lori Baier.

1. Denise shared a book she is reading called Community by Block.
2. Steve Kenkel and Jacob Buchanon will be creating a drone video showing the proposed route. Also suggested putting a sign at the beginning and the end of the route and move it to show progress. Also a name was suggested on connecting with Manatt's. We will be checking with Sydney Upah about being our social media person.
3. Denise shared the laminated document with the map and talking points. The website address needs to be corrected. Karen will take care of this. We will be having people create videos to support each talking point.
4. Update on grants
 - a. Tama County Community Foundation \$45,000
 - b. Hawkeye Gaming \$20,000
 - c. Lincoln Savings \$5,000
5. The Tama City clerks have clarified with the county auditor what needs to be done so we can use an electronic payment system to collect donations. This will be voted on at the Tama City Council meeting on February 17. They are asking us to attend to help explain our progress. The meeting is at 5:30. Jeremy Fletcher is using Squarespace to create an app for collecting donations. Denise learned from an area concrete business that a linear foot of concrete is a little over \$45. Because prices increase etc., we will publicize that people wishing to donate can purchase a foot of concrete for \$50. It was recommended that the donation amounts on the app be...
\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$Custom
There is a monthly cost to use Squarespace and there is a translation fee of 2.9% plus \$0.30. Karen wondered if we could give those donating the option of covering the transaction fee (similar to what Project Heifer does)?

6. Update on School plans
 - a. Denise, Karen and Shelly met with Jon Huebner, Scott Bolen, and Chelsea Ahrends about ways the school could be involved. After discussion, these are the current plans.
 - b. High School - will hold a dance-a-thon in March. Money raised will go toward the project. Karen will meet with the High School Student Council. The student council will sponsor the dance and the write a check to the City of Tama.
 - c. The Middle School will hold a dance-a-thon, dodgeball tournament, step-athon in May. Money raised will be donated to the project.
 - d. The Elementary will hold a step-a-thon in March. Money raised will go toward the project.
7. Becca Chyma and Sue Haughey agreed to co-chair the Alumni group. They will be meeting Thursday, February 13th at 1pm at the Toledo Library. The purpose is to clarify ideas so this can move forward.
8. Businesses: We are collecting a list of vendors that each city, the chamber and the school use. We will be approaching them for donations. Larry and Warren are ready to begin talking to local businesses once their letter is finished. They will do Tama and Toledo businesses. Katherine Ollendieck recommended that we collect donations if people are ready to donate whether we have everything in place or not. City of Tama will keep the checks etc. in the safe. Karen will create a receipt document to track donations.
9. Denise shared the 10 commandments of fundraising. There are 6.
10. Katherine Ollendieck attended and shared that we would match with McElroy Foundation. Also we should apply to Mansfield Foundation. Give info to the Tama City Clerks. Also she is asking that we attend the Supervisors meeting on Monday, February 10 in support of the Economic Development Office. She would also like letters of support.