

Feb Interest: 8,496.00
 Account Bal Total: 19,575.73

Wayne Dennis Requests

From: Alfreda Myers (alfredam48@yahoo.com)

To: ckastens@anthonykansas.org; smiller@anthonykansas.org

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 10:54 AM CDT

The Wayne Dennis Committee met on May 1, 2024, to review the two requests that we had received. The Anthony Chamber of Commerce requested \$11,500.00 for the Sunflower Balloon Fest, and the Anthony Pride Organization requested \$5000.00 for the City Wide Pride Cleanup project.

Attached are the minutes of our meeting showing that the committee approved both requests as we think both benefit the Anthony Community.

Please put our recommendations on the agenda for the May 7th meeting as time is running short for the Chamber of Commerce to receive any funds before the date of their event.

Alfreda Myers
Chairman
Wayne Dennis Committee



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Wayne Dennis Foundation Committee Meeting

May 1, 2024

Bank of the Plains Hospitality Room

11:45 am

Present: Chairperson Alfreda Myers, Linda Francis, Susan Croft, Brad Davis
Vernonica Larcom, Megan McCaslin

Items for consideration:

- 1) Request from Anthony Chamber of Commerce for \$11,500 for funding for Balloon Fest
- 2) Request for Anthony Pride for \$5,000 for funding for annual cleanup.

Alfreda Myers called the meeting to order. Alfreda announced that Ryan Cashier had agreed and been approved to be on the committee but was not able to attend this meeting due to a scheduling conflict. Alfreda gave a report on the funds currently available in the Wayne Dennis account.

Discussion was held on the request by the Anthony Chamber of Commerce. The committee agreed that this was an important event for the City of Anthony and brings many people into town. Susan Croft moved to grant the Chamber the requested amount of \$11,500. Megan McCaslin seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously with member Brad Davis abstaining as he serves as a committee member on the Chamber of Commerce.

Discussion was then held regarding the request by Anthony Pride. It was agreed that this was a great opportunity to help clean up the city and has been well attended in past years. Brad Davis moved to grant the Anthony Pride Organization the \$5000 they requested. Susan Croft seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Alfreda led discussion on the money that was given to the Arts Center as a matching grant for the mural to be painted on the round top on the highway north of town. Since there has been no mural started Alfreda agreed to look

further into the situation and see why there has been no progress to date. If the project has been withdrawn it was agreed the funds provided should be returned.

No other requests for funds were presented. Chairperson Alfreda Myers adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted May 1, 2024 – Secretary Linda K Francis

March 13, 2024

Dear Members of the Wayne Dennis Board,

The Anthony Chamber of Commerce would like to thank you for your contribution last year to help sustain our community organization. We were very humbled that you chose our organization for one of your grants.

As you may recall from that letter, the reason we are asking for another grant is because of the lack of transient guest tax coming into Anthony because of our lack of hotels. There simply isn't anything there.

This year we are once again requesting a grant in the amount of \$11,500.00 to help us cover the costs of the Sunflower Balloon Fest and allow us to put on a tremendous community event. The more we can get covered by sponsorships and grants, the more we can put toward our work here at the Anthony Chamber.

We are very excited about this years Balloon Fest and we hope that you will join us in celebrating this annual event which has become a signature event for the City of Anthony!

Again, thank you for your consideration and all that you do for the community. We forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

The Anthony Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

4-10-2024 To -Wayne Dennis Fund Committee

From – **The Anthony Pride Organization** regarding our FREE “Clean-Up” Anthony campaign

Anthony community volunteers organized the Anthony Pride group to combat community deterioration and to build a better community. It is our goal to keep Anthony “active & attractive.” We initiated a Free Community Clean Up in July of 2020. The FREE clean up gave citizens the opportunity to dispose of items collected in yards, garages & on porches. The cleanup included junk/discarded items, furniture, metals/appliances/computers and more (no household trash as this is a weekly responsibility that can be taken care of with our local Wyatt Trash Service). The response was great. We have continued this project yearly. The Wayne Dennis funds have provided funds for this project from the very first clean-up. The next cleanup is scheduled for October of 2024. As we prepare for the upcoming cleanup, we find our funds are running low and the cost of bins, etc. has increased. For this reason, we are submitting a **request for \$5000 to the Wayne Dennis committee** to continue with this community event. As stated in the will of Wayne Dennis, his funds are to be used in such a manner as to benefit the greatest number of all the citizens of the City of Anthony. The goal of the Pride Clean Up Anthony campaign does just that – they benefit the whole community regardless of income or age.

Financial Information – Our last clean-up in October of 2023, we spend \$2675.87. Demand has not lessened over time. The clean-up in the past two years has required the same number of bins. We also need bins for metal / appliance recycling. During our last cleanup, the price of metal was high enough we were not charged for the metal bins. We gave the profit from the metal collection sold to our Boys Scouts. The scouts and their leaders have been of great assistance with our cleanup efforts. It was because of the scout leaders we were able to send workers with a trailer out into the community to collect items from community residents who were not able to transport or move their trash/appliance discard on their own. This is a great service we can offer the community. We expanded this service this past clean-up as one of our members offered another trailer and appliance mover. We can cover more areas in the town if we have enough workforce. We also have a trailer set up for collection of computers, electronics etc. One of our Pride members transports these items to Wichita for recycling. In addition to the cost of the bins and gas for the vehicles, we have promotion expenses for banners and advertising. Many of our Pride members donate gas, food, ice, use of equipment, etc. but we not all of the expenses are covered, and we want to ensure we have funds available to pay for these items. If we do not need all the \$5000 requested for this clean up, we will use the remainder of the funds for future FREE clean ups and beautification projects as we have in the past.

Background – The Anthony Pride Organization follows the guiding principles & works in cooperation with the Kansas PRIDE Program (Kansas Community Empowerment) under the direction of the Kansas State University Cooperative Extension Service & the Kansas Dept. Of Commerce. This is not the first time Anthony has had a PRIDE organization. The original PRIDE group was organized back in the 70's and has seen groups organized for the betterment of Anthony thru the years since then. PRIDE cannot be organized without the approval and support of the city commission which we have received annually since reorganizing in March of 2020. The need for PRIDE had been expressed to the group's organizers by many citizens of Anthony, as well as residents returning to Anthony for a visit. They were concerned the town was deteriorating, and action needed to take place to stop that. It is especially important to keep Anthony looking its' best if we are to stop the downward trend in population numbers. We cannot

market Anthony to others if we do not show PRIDE in our surroundings. Our bylaws state the Anthony Pride group will work with the public, the City Council, our schools, our youth & youth organizations, and our local civic, religious, and governmental organizations -current and any future ones. It is our goal to keep Anthony "Active & Attractive." It is a goal of the Pride Organization to bring attention to the many activities that our local clubs and organizations are doing for Anthony as well as working together on projects we all deem we can accomplish "better together." At the FREE community Clean Up campaigns, PRIDE volunteers were aided in the past by the Boys Scouts, Key Club members as well as some of our volunteers who belong to the Kiwanis, DAR, the Masons, the Anthony Theatre, and community service workers. We will continue to seek out community volunteers, choosing projects that will involve other community organizations and offering our services to them on any project they want us to be involved with. We have a PRIDE in Anthony Facebook group page which has generated interest in our community. We use the group page to recognize events and individuals that are doing things in Anthony that give us PRIDE in our community. We place articles in the Anthony Republican recognizing businesses and groups that make Anthony proud. We continue to seek out volunteers as well as ideas for new projects we can do with our workforce and funds that help to keep Anthony – Active and Attractive. Some of our recent activities include a Trivia game night to provide fun for community members and raise money for our projects. We decorated Memorial Park with all new decorations and lighting during the holiday season from funds received from the sale of a cookbook we created. We participated in the Kansas Community Empowerment "First Impressions" program to learn what visitors saw when they visited Anthony and use this knowledge to improve Anthony. The findings from this program lead to our current project of providing better directional signage for Anthony.

Our PRIDE committee members currently consist of Autumn Kloefkorn- Chair, Randy Wiseley- Vice-Chair, Sherrie Eaton- Secretary, Greg Cleveland- Treasurer, Belinda Cleveland, J.D. Hays, Barbara Thomas, Judy Dent, Sheila Adams, Jacquie Wiseley, Tammy Potter, Rob & Nicollet Howell, Deborah Umana, and Tammy Calderon We also have other volunteers that help with PRIDE projects but do not attend the bi-monthly meetings. They are a valuable resource.

(To avoid any appearance of conflict of interest and in the interest of transparency, city commissioners serving on this public committee include Greg Cleveland and Sherrie Eaton. If your committee approves this request and you submit it to the city commission for approval – they will be abstaining from voting. The remaining three commissioners will be the commissioner's voting. The legality of our request has been deemed appropriate by the League of Municipalities attorney; who's guidance was sought in handling these matters.)

We appreciate your community service on the Wayne Dennis Fund committee. Thank You for your consideration of this request.