

8/22/22 - approved
for the \$5000

8-6-2022 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 collecting 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, and we continued this project in October of 2020 and 2021. The next cleanup is scheduled for Oct. 14 & 15, 2022. Every cleanup event we have held has had excellent response. In the fall of 2020, we requested and received \$6000 from the Wayne Dennis Fund to finance the fall clean up and future ones as well as other cleanup/improvement events we sponsored. As we prepare for the upcoming cleanup, we find that our funds are running low and that 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 goals of the Pride Clean Up Anthony campaign do just that – they benefit the whole community regardless of income or age.

Financial Information – The bins will now cost \$300 each. Last cleanup 6 bins were filled. We anticipate the need for 6 bins this time, if not more, as the county has limited the hours of the Harper County Landfill located just east of the Patterson Health Center. We also need bins for metal / appliance recycling. Our last cleanup, the price of metal was high enough that we raised \$317.50 more from the metal that was collected and sold then the cost of the metal bins, but we gave the profit from the metal collection to our Boys Scouts. The scouts and their leaders have been of great assistance with our cleanup efforts and were deserving of the \$317.50. It was because of the scout leaders that we were able to send workers with a trailer out into the community to collect items from community residents that were not able to transport or move their trash/appliance discard on their own. This was a great service that we were able to offer the community. This cleanup, one of our new Pride members has offered another trailer and appliance mover so that we can cover more area in the town if we have enough workforce. We also have a trailer set up for collection of computers, electronics etc. that one of our Pride members transports to Wichita for recycling. In addition to the cost of the bins, we have promotion expenses for banners and advertising. Many of our Pride members donate gas, food, ice, use of equipment, etc. but we would like to ensure that we have funds available to pay for these items. If we do not need all the \$5000 for this clean up, we will use the remainder of the funds for future FREE clean ups and beautification projects that we will need funded. In addition to the community cleanups, we purchased signage to recognize homes/yards that are well maintained or have “cleaned up” in some way. We used these signs last year and again this summer. All our projects are to benefit the citizens of Anthony. Currently we are working on selling cookbooks to help fund Christmas lights/ décor in Memorial Park. These funds are separated from the funds that we use for cleanup events and projects. In addition to funds from the sale of the cookbook, our non-profit group has received donations designated for Christmas lights/décor in Memorial Park. While we had hoped to have new lighting by 2021, it will probably be 2022 before this project is complete. We anticipate that our cookbook sales

along with donations will be around \$15000 to \$20000 for the Christmas "Light Up Anthony" project. We are working with the Chamber of Commerce on this project.

Background – The Anthony Pride Organization follows the guiding principles & works in cooperation with the Kansas PRIDE Program 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 organize 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 that the town was deteriorating, and that 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 that 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 that may be formed. It is our goal to keep Anthony "active & attractive." It is the goal of the Pride Organization that we can bring attention to the many activities that our local clubs and organizations are doing for Anthony as well as working together on projects that we all deem that we can accomplish "better together." At the FREE community Clean Up campaigns, PRIDE volunteers were aided 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. We will continue to seek out community volunteers choosing projects that will involve other community organizations and offering our service to them on any project that they will like us to be involved with. We have a PRIDE in Anthony Facebook group page which has generated interest in our community. We use that 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 that we can do with our workforce and funds that help to keep Anthony – active and attractive.

Our PRIDE committee members currently consist of Autumn Kloefkorn- Chair, JD Hays- Vice-Chair, Sherrie Eaton- Secretary, Greg Cleveland, Treasurer, BarBara Wright, Belinda Cleveland, Teresa Hays, Rodney Goertz, Pauletta Dodgen, Belinda Cleveland, Barbara Thomas, Judy Dent, Beth Farmer, Sheila Adams, Don & Rebecca Atha, Jacquie & Randy Wiseley, Tanis Johnson, Jeff & Brooke Pack, Tammy Potter, Weston Hoover, and Carol Vardy. 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 that serve 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 approved appropriate by the League of Municipalities attorney; who's guidance was sought in handling this matter.)

We appreciate your community service by serving on the Wayne Dennis Fund committee.