



BLACK FOREST COMMUNITY CLUB

Board and Officer / General Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 2025, at BFCC

In Attendance:

- 18 attendees
 - 4 BFCC officers
 - James Collins, President
 - Kelly Marchbank, Vice President
 - Cherie Erler, Treasurer
 - John Trcka, Secretary
 - 3 BFCC board members
 - Sherrie Lidderdale, member, 1 year remaining
 - Leif Garrison, member, 2 years remaining
 - Mindy Geiser, member, 3 years remaining
 - 10 club members
 - Chuck Lidderdale
 - Christy Collins
 - Carolyn Brown
 - Jon Bennett
 - Karen Lockhart
 - Jerry Geiser
 - Dawn Sciarrotta
 - Johanna Ofstedal
 - Steve White
 - Kayla White
 - 1 club visitor
 - Kim Green

Attachments:

- Treasurer's report
- Draft Welcome letter
- Backyard Plan of Actions and Milestones (POAM)

I: Open Meeting

- Jim called meeting to order 6:34.

II: Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- Minutes from Dec 5, 2024 mtg not yet available – nothing submitted for approval.

III: Treasurer's Report

- See attached treasurer's report.
- A good amount was collected at Christmas gala for Log School exterior logs restoration and chinking: \$3773.96.

IV: New Business

- Jim Collins mentioned need for 'We Are Black Forest' website maintenance. Mindy Geiser said that since she was taking over social outreach tech, she would look into this.
- Jim Collins recognized Mindy Geiser for thinking outside box and helping find a win/win solution to a potential Festival calendar conflict.
 - Leif Garrison mentioned need to get BF Festival date as 2nd Sat of Aug 'enshrined in stone' to avoid future conflicts.
- Jim Collins asked John Bennet (BF Festival Committee Chair) to have a quick BF Festival mtg at 6:30 at BFCC next Thu 1/30, just prior to MVEA mtg at 7pm.
- Jim Collins proposed Kayla White to be club's insurance broker who is with same company as current provider.
- Jim asked Mindy Geiser and Dawn Sciarrotta to ensure they are communicating to ensure no calendar conflicts.
- Cherie Erler proposed adding a club mtg in July to help with festival planning.
- Leif Garrison suggested ensuring there is a club mtg on first Thursday in December is to be a permanently (from now on) combined November/December meeting, to avoid predictable holiday scheduling conflicts in both months.
- Jim Collins noted there are 9 regular club meetings each year: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jul, Sep, Oct, Dec. Skip Jun for summer break. Skip Nov for Thanksgiving break.
- Jim Collins introduced Kim Green who presented petition to BFCC for her and her organization to hold a Heritage Festival at BFCC and Backyard.
 - Proposed theme of heritage festival at BFCC is Journeys Through Time.
 - Kim has ~20 years of experience teaching and holding events focused on three major areas: Homesteading, Primitive Skills, Alternative Health Care.

- Requested that her potential plans with BFCC be held private until she's ready to release the info as she's working to secure a sponsor for PR representation who would want to be more involved.
 - She is meeting with her prospective PR rep on Monday 1/27.
- She planned for a festival back in 2020 that got shelved due to covid.
- Five themes for proposed Heritage Festival: 1) Animal husbandry, 2) Real foods, 3) Fibers spinning/dyeing/weaving, 4) Tinctures, 5) Homesteading (to include welding)
- Backyard would have 5 wheels: one for each of the themes
- Each wheel would have 5 spokes: each with live demos associated to theme
- Wants to emphasize old kids' games, e.g., egg carry on spoon, cake walk, etc.
- Wants to use BFCC's Log School to emphasize pioneer history
- Funding: Kim's school will be providing funding
 - Articles of non-profit incorporation have been submitted but not yet attained.
- Logistics:
 - Hall and surrounding area would host vendors.
 - 50-60 vendors in building and perimeter.
 - Backyard would host theme wheels.
 - Setup start at 7am setup for hall.
 - Event would run 9am to 4pm.
 - Teardown and cleaned up done by 7pm. Promised to leave it better than found it.
 - Kim agreed a good date for her Heritage Festival would be the last Saturday of Sept, 9/27. She agreed to selecting a date that wouldn't be too close to the BF Festival date.
 - Nominally would expecting 200-300 people. However, assuming significant additional draw from BF Market, could get up to ~1800.
 - Discussion regarding parking. Nominally would plan to use LDS church and Baptist church with shuttle.
 - She will have insurance – Jim would work details needed.
 - Jim noted that board would have to discuss required deposit and fee.
- Kim expressed thanks for opportunity to present her request.
- Karen Lockhart expressed much thanks to use of BFCC for her classes.
- Leif Garrison led discussion regarding request from Terry Stokka representing Friends of BF (formerly BF Land Use committee which became 'Friends of BF Preservation Plan').
 - Needs help funding a new land use map.
 - Asking for \$250 cost to be split between 3 organizations, \$83.33 each: Friends of BF, Protect Our Wells (another organization being led by Terry Stokka), and BFCC.
 - Leif made motion for BFCC to become sponsor for 1/3 cost of this new map. Mindy Geiser seconded. Discussion: A copy of map will be provided to BFCC. Size is 3'x3'. Includes all roads and neighborhoods. John Bennet asked if additional copies could be requested and what cost would be. **ACTION:** Leif Garrison will ask if extra copies can be made of the new, large, land use map and what their cost would be. Vote to approve motion was unanimously approved.

- Jim Collins led discussion regarding offering BFCC hall for 2x/month meetings for non-profit organization Black Forest Business Connection led by Marissa Searle. Purpose of this group is to connect, network and work together with community businesses in BF and nearby communities. Their meetings are intended to be open to all interested with focus on small businesses. Taking over BF Living magazine. Intend to meet two days per month in mornings, say 7:30am to 9am, Tue or Thu. All agreed adding these meetings to the BFCC calendar would not be a problem given morning hours are typically not busy. All agreed this would be a good partnership that would promote club awareness, community development, and connections to local businesses. The org is willing to move meeting if any time conflicts. All agreed a contract should be in place, and we could start out with no rent fee. Marissa has some BF community history given she is a member of the Ash Tones band that has played at BFCC. Despite no rent to be charged, Cherie Erler recommended a \$350 1-time deposit which would be similar to contracts in place with other non-profit orgs to include 4-H, etc. Vote to approve was unanimously approved.
- Jim Collins led discussion on Welcome letters. All agree best to not be a post card. Kristi Collins has volunteered to be the Welcome committee lead. First action is to send welcome letter to new members via snail mail. A draft letter was passed around for review with all agreeing it was good as-is. See **attached**.
- Jim Collins proposed membership fee increase from \$15 to \$20 as of 3/1/2025 for new or renewing members. Jim Collins made a motion to increase dues. Sherrie Lidderdale seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously.
- Jim Collins proposed that we get more local church youth groups involved with helping out with BF Festival tasks, e.g., passing out flyers, setup, etc. No disagreement was heard.
- Johanna Ofstedal and Dawn Sciarrotta led discussion regarding sending bulk mailings to advertise for 1) BF Festival and 2) end of calendar year notification (1-month before membership fees are due). All agreed mailing postcards for this is best. Chuck Lidderdale recommended low-cost bulk mailing to all residents of BF. The Social committee led by Dawn and Johanna will continue to poll community for ideas for social events and work plan to provide community notification for planned events.
- Steve White suggested clarifying membership = only 2 adult voters per household. **ACTION:** Leif Garrison to review bylaws to ensure it is clear regarding 2 adult voting members max per household.
- Steve White presented the Backyard POAM **attached** with items listed in order of priority. Backyard committee he leads will setup times to meet at BF Brewery. Will get contact info for landscape architect, Kristin Heggem who is developing the Backyard master plan from Leif Garrison. Her company is KHLA. Long-term plan: 2-lane road to back, fence, restrooms, electricity, water, picnic tables, big pavilion, storage container. Purpose: better usability for BFCC activities and members, rentable for events.
- Jim Collins shared his plan to create more committees that may include maintenance, welcome, backyard, bylaws, other. To enable help/leadership from Board members, may need to update Bylaws or call these groups something other than committees given Board members are not allowed to serve on committees.

- Steve White asked for more info on the water well and pump to include pump rate and well supply rate to ensure pump is well-sized for well supply rate. **ACTION:** Jim Collins to get well and pump info to Steve White.
- Carolyn Brown asked the group to let her know about items to update or articles to include in newsletter. There were no inputs from the group, to include the fact that the membership fee increase details were not yet finalized. As such Carolyn indicated the newsletter will not be updated.
- Karen Lockhart asked for the name of a BFCC website contact as she needs to update info regarding her exercise and strength training class schedules. Leif Garrison directed her to Chuck Lidderdale.

V: Close Meeting

- Sherri Lidderdale made motion to close. Mindy Geiser seconded. Jim Collins closed mtg at 8:10pm.