

Welcome Home Meeting 6/21/23

1. Guest Speaker Mark Wolff of Otsego Refugee Resettlement Coalition presented history of Coalition, present work, and future goals. His presentation will soon be available online for viewing, especially by those who were absent. Presentation was followed by Q&A.

Following this, See forwarded email: List of Household Items still needed for expected Refugee couple.

2. Planning of Mayor's Summer Welcome Home Reception, August 12, 12:00 to 4:00 pm, outdoors on Dietz Street.

A. Tables: Foothills is allowing us to use up to 34 rectangular folding tables and Mark D. will look into possible DPW or other transport to Dietz.

B. Food: Discussion re pros & cons of food trucks vs. downtown food businesses, possible coupons..Decision to welcome all of above who wish to participate, including possibly scouts with lemonade stands. Kaytee is looking into scouts/lemonade. Marcela is checking with Wise Guys & possibly others, with Mark D.'s help. Kathy has been contacting food trucks.

C. Sound/Music: Luisa says that David Kropp has a sound system that could work for this, and Kathy has asked David/Victoria to do strolling FB promotion of event. Vote re Recorded Music vs Live Music, Decision = Recorded Music.

D. Jennifer suggested bringing Cornhole and all agreed = Great Idea!!

E. Art: Emily Falco will do Street Painting during event, and there will be Chalk and Pavement available for Community Artwork.

F. Permits/Funding/Challenges:

Mayor Drnek explained challenge related to having Task Forces which are outside of the usual manner of city initiatives. Marcela brought paperwork for our event. Mayor assured us that steps are being taken which will absolutely facilitate the Summer Welcome Home Reception.

Thank you, Linda Drake, for bringing Andrew to our meeting! Andrew is a Newcomer to Oneonta, a new SUNY Oneonta graduate who is settling here in our beautiful City of the Hills! Andrew, we would be happy for you to speak to us about your choice to move here and how we can best serve your needs. Since our event is coming up in August, how about at our September meeting? Meanwhile, you are very welcome to join us at our 3rd Wednesday meetings and on August 12!