

September 22, 2014

**2014 FAIRHOPE CHRISTMAS PARADE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2014**

The 2014 Christmas Parade Committee met on Wednesday September 10, 2014 at the Nix Center. The following members were present: Ted Dwyer, Gary Turner, Doug Johnson, Rick Waveunek, Steve Allen, Joe Self, Arthur Bosage, Sherry Sullivan, Paige Turberville, Sheri Swartz, Shane Nolte and Lori Dubose.

The following issues and concerns were discussed:

Doug Johnson was introduced as a new committee member.

Santa Claus arrived on the scene prior to the meeting.

The process of marking the unit positions was finalized. The space identification will be marked at the front of the space. The street cones will be placed at the forward position of the designated spaces.

The committee will designate an assistant for Al Mc Phearson.

Any non-authorized vehicle traffic entering Summit Street from Fairhope Avenue will be diverted to Bay View Avenue. Police support cannot be guaranteed at the intersection of Fairhope and Summit. This is due to the limited number of police personnel available.

Marshals from the Rotary and any other civic organizations will be briefed prior to the parade. An attempt will be made to pass on any pertinent information to the Parade Officials (Committee Members).

An additional committee person will be assisting Gary Turner at the "Greeting Location" (St James and Summit).

The consumption of alcoholic beverages at the assembly area was discussed. This can develop into a sensitive situation. If in the opinion of the Paraded Officials the situation warrants some action, it becomes strictly a police issue.

The interference of unauthorized vehicles in the immediate vicinity of the assembly areas should be referred to the police after unsuccessful attempts by Parade Officials to address the problem.

Parade Officials (Committee Members) should keep parade participants alert prior to the initial movement of the parade. The units should be "ready to roll" no later 6:50 PM. The parade starts at 7:00 PM.

We may need to place additional personnel at the parade start point.

**It was agreed that the “twirlers” be located as close to the front as possible in the parade in order to alleviate the gap problem.**

**It was agreed that a “scheduled 5 minute halt” should be made at the intersection of Oak and North Section Streets. The lead police vehicle in the parade will accommodate us. It is hoped that this will alleviate some of the gap problem.**

**It should be emphasized to the participants that they should return upon the parade completion to exactly their same starting positions. This return should also be via the same route as they approached their respective start points. The entering of Church Street off of Fairhope Avenue is not authorized.**

**Sherry Sullivan will attempt to obtain florescent vests with “Parade Official” printed on the back.**

**Sherry Sullivan will attempt to see if we can obtain better communication assets.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.**

**Ted Dwyer**