

## Meeting Minutes Ukrainian Independence Day Meeting - 7/13/23 - 8 pm - Zoom

**Attendance:** Vsevolod Petriv (UCCA); Walter Shuludko(UAEC); Stefka Majkut (UAYA) Paul Rabchenuk (UCCA); Patricia Libby (UCCA) Andrij Boyko (UCCN); Ivanka Roberts (UCCN); Anton Khlebas (UCCN); Mykola Konrad (Plast); Ostap Nalysnyk (UkrainianBoston FB); Vladimir Folgeman (Center Makor); Myron Kravchuk (UkraineForward) ; Vera Bokhenik (UCCA); Vladimir Veprev (UCCA), Maria Saxe

### Agenda:

- Welcome.
- Flag Raising.
- Picnic.
  - Site plan
  - Roles
  - Next Steps
- Unfurling Largest Ukrainian Flag in the world.

### Flag Raising - Thursday, August 24th noon; Boston City Hall Plaza main flagpole.

- **17 invitations sent to our representatives one was held.** ( See list in Power Point):

#### Question/Concern -

The invitation for Kendra Lara - Boston City Councilor District 6, which includes Jamaica Plain and our two local parishes, was held due to her recent legal situation regarding a car accident/driving record.

Participants input was solicited about the held invitation.

The following opinions were voiced:

- She is still a representative of District 6 and should be invited.
- The President of The Boston City Council has reproached her and another consul member for sheading a bad light on the council.
- She was a strong supporter of a redistricting plan that was finally nullified by the courts and was opposed by the Boston Council Members who have supported our community.
- By inviting her are we showing support for her actions to the larger greater Boston community?
- By inviting her are we sending an appropriate message to our own community?
- She has not come nor sent any acknowledgement to our previous invitations.
- Those who work with the Boston City Council should decide.

We did not take a formal vote, however, Vsevolod asked the question does anyone oppose sending Kendra Lara an invitation? No opposition was voiced. I intend to post the invitation but will wait until August 10<sup>th</sup> to do so. This allows for the appropriate two-week notice and allows us to see what may develop in this situation.

- **Program is in the works:**

- Paul Rabchenuk following up on the Governor's proclamation.
- The MC will be Brig Gen Lenny Kondratiuk.
- Guest speaker Andrew Nynka the editor of the Ukrainian Weekly.

#### Suggestions:

- Conclude with the Prayer for Ukraine "Боже Великий Єдиний"-
  - In addition, it was suggested to sing one or two verses in Ukrainian and also at least one verse in English.
- Olga Abakumova was recommended to sing - VP to contact.

All suggestions were favorably received.

### Picnic - Sunday, August 27, 2023, noon Parish grounds of Christ the King

#### **Site Plan:**

- Additional parking secured by Nick Zozula at the Match School, a short distance away from the church - about 60 spots.
- The latest site plan for the picnic was presented (see PowerPoint)
- UCCN/ Andrij Boyko, Inna Boyko, Ivanka Roberts, Anton Khlebas to prepare a stage approximately 12'; with a backdrop 12' H x 16' W.

### **Site Plan (continued):**

- Non-profit organizations and community groups to bring their own tent/tables and chairs.
    - Stefka Majkut volunteered to help guide groups to predesignated spots on the day of event.
    - Discussion: Should we ask for donations from non-profit organizations and community groups who set up tents to help defer expenses to church?
      - If yes, should we require an amount or list a suggested donation amount?  
The amounts discussed were either \$50 or \$25.
      - If we require an amount, how do we handle organizations that are not selling, non-profits and others selling for Aid to Ukraine?
      - Do we only recruit nonprofits? What if vendors want to participate?
- To be further discussed. No one is assigned to coordinate this portion of the event.

### **Roles:**

#### **Site Management:**

- Sound system - Anton Popov & Vladimir Foygelman
- Hospitality - PLAST and possibly Ukraine Forward
- Parking Plan - Myron Kravchuk, Mykola Konrad, V, Petriv - separate meeting to discuss details, utilizing walkie talkies for communication.
- Pre-Event Setup (Not Yet Assigned)
  - Ask church to cut grass before event –
  - Prune just a few lower branches of trees to provide better visibility.
  - Move tables from St. Andrew's - how to get them there and how many?
  - Rearrange picnic tables and bring out chairs.
  - Mark parking.
  - Signage.
  - Buy/get donations and bring food to kitchen.
  - Transport chafing dishes.

#### **Food**

- Food menu and supplies needed, preparation, and service details to be determined. Vera Bokhenik, is recruiting a team to coordinate this portion of the event.
  - Advertise Kitchen as cash only but Roman Bokhenik will work on continued testing of alternate payment methods.
  - Victor Bokhenik & Maria Semyoniv – refreshments
  - We hope Oksana Syneyko may agree to coordinate desserts as she did last year.
  - Discussion: Where should water be available? Was not resolved.

#### **Program**

- Short program at picnic – UCCA – V. Petriv - *MC Anton Khlebas?*
- Artistic program - UCCN Ivanka Roberts - MC Olenka Bokhenik and Valerii Vok
- Activities – All Orgs - Need someone to coordinate Activities - MC Anton Khlebas
  - Ideas: Dancing, Cards for soldiers, Raffle, Face Painting, Best Vyshyvanka, Arm Wrestling

#### **Additional Next Steps:**

- Need Volunteer Coordinator.
- Vladimir Foygelman requested Center Makor to be added as event co-host. Agreed.
- M. Saxe - Meeting Minutes.
- Ivanka Roberts update full event flyer.
- V. Petriv edit Meeting Minutes and send them to attendees together with meeting PowerPoint.
- Everyone to help by promoting the event.

#### **Topics not covered:**

- How will we conduct overall coordination during the event?
- Tee shirts?
- Registering/counting attendees wristbands/stamps?
- Emergency procedures?
- Security?
- Rain Date, or Inclement Weather Plan.

**Unfurling Large Flag** Thursday, August 24th 3PM; Millenium Park,  
300 Gardner St. Boston, MA 02132.

- UCCN has obtained use of the world's largest Ukrainian Flag 60 x 40 meters weighing 200kg (65 X 43 yds weighing 441 lbs.) to be unrolled at Millenium Park on 8/24 3 pm. *Note: the flag is made of light material but because of its size in total it is still heavy.*
  - We need a minimum of 200 people to open, hold and close this flag, the more people that participate the better. This will be a grand and historic moment.
  - Video from a previous event 2022 NY Central Park – (see links below)

Andrij Boyko provided these links:

[https://twitter.com/Heroiam\\_Slava/status/1670114563725963264?t=HTKxvTSFYlzCKUePKb1iKw&s=19](https://twitter.com/Heroiam_Slava/status/1670114563725963264?t=HTKxvTSFYlzCKUePKb1iKw&s=19)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wlioKtxQAas>

<https://www.facebook.com/Secretnyc/videos/new-yorkers-unfurl-largest-ukrainian-flag-in-central-park/610756250712114/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Reuters/videos/live-worlds-largest-ukraine-flag-unveiled-in-new-york-city/514246990467218/>

**No date was set for the next meeting.**

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