

What's Developing

Birth is a very exciting thing. Those who attended the Community Action session on February 27 were pretty excited as the Eureka Ambassadors were born. Well, maybe it wasn't a real birth, but it was definitely the start of something new and without a doubt, it was exciting.

This was the second Community Action session that has been held, this time at Prime Time to give participants more room as they participated. It was similar to the first meeting in the general structure of breaking into small groups for some brainstorming. The difference was that as the groups identified their thoughts, those ideas were written on poster sized sheets of paper and posted around the room. Each person was given 3 sticky dots and used them to vote for their ideas of highest interest on the poster sheets. Then the top vote-getting ideas were posted and anyone who wanted to be involved in any of them formed a small committee to proceed.

Before all of that happened, those who had tackled projects following the first meeting told of progress they had made. Some of those projects included volleyball for adults which has already begun, planning a demolition derby, mentoring a local business, Welcome Bag distribution, and groundwork for Bountiful Baskets.

Off and running on the new projects, those with a strong interest in specific areas will be involved in increased participation in Schmeckfest, establishing an art program for youth and adults, setting up a Facebook page for the group, updating the rental housing list to make it more user friendly, and adding activities for July 4.

There was also a time for sharing since all present are involved in other aspects of the community. The Boy Scouts will be hosting Sunday afternoon Bingo games beginning March 16 because their funds are depleted. The Fitness Center will host Tour of Tables, a Walk Poker Run, and a Tour of Yards. The Ambulance Dept. needs both drivers and EMTs, and will pay for the training.

At the end of the session there was a discussion on how to proceed. That's where the "birth" happened. Wanting a name for themselves and the Facebook page, the consensus was to be called the Eureka Ambassadors. Other decisions made were to continue with regular meetings and to hold the meetings the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at Prime Time, to continue with large meetings and break into smaller discussion groups, and to do more publicizing to get additional people to participate. Personal invitations are by far the most effective way to get people to a meeting, but additional methods will also be used to let others know about the meetings.

The one exception to the meeting dates is the one for March. The last Thursday of the month is Eureka Community Development Company's annual meeting at the Senior Center at 7:00 PM. The Eureka Ambassadors will attend and be a part of that meeting, and then have their next regular meeting in April.

Wanda Jundt