

April 11, 2025

TO: City Council Member Chris Dobrozsi, Chair
Government Affairs Committee of City Council

FROM: Brian K. Riblet, City Manager **BKR**

SUBJECT: Government Affairs Committee Meeting of Monday, April 14, 2025

As a reminder, the Government Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall. Items to be discussed include:

1. CIS Department Surplus—Please see the attached correspondence from Community Information and Services Director Matthew Vanderhorst requesting that the Committee declare a list of computer equipment as surplus to be auctioned on GovDeals.com.
2. Service to the Community Grant Discussion—Please see the attached correspondence from Community Information and Services Director Matthew Vanderhorst requesting the opportunity to discuss the recommendations for the Service to the Community grant applicants and to obtain feedback from the Committee at the meeting.
3. Public Works Surplus—Please see the attached correspondence from Public Works Director Gary Heitkamp requesting that the Committee declare the attached list of equipment as surplus. Staff will be present to discuss the list and to answer any questions at the meeting.
4. Co-Branding Update—Please see the attached correspondence from Tracy Henao, Assistant City Manager, requesting the opportunity to update the Committee on the Co-Branding Design as discussed at the February 10, 2025 Committee meeting. Staff would like to present final design concepts as prepared by Kolar Design and to obtain feedback from the Committee at the meeting.
5. Other Business—The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an opportunity to discuss any issue or ask questions that may be on your mind.

Also, attached are the minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting of the Government Affairs Committee for review and approval at Monday's meeting. Should you have questions or concerns pertaining to this topic please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Mayor and City Council Members (4)
Connie Gaylor, Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council
Department Heads
File



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF CITY COUNCIL


**10101 Montgomery Road • Montgomery, Ohio 45242
(513) 891-2424 • Fax (513) 891-2498**

**Agenda
April 14, 2025
City Hall
4:30 P.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Guests and Residents
3. New Business
 - a. CIS Department Surplus
 - b. Service to the Community Grant Discussion
 - c. Public Works Surplus
4. Old Business
 - a. Co-Branding Update
5. Other Business
6. Approval of Minutes – March 10, 2025
7. Executive Session
8. Adjournment

March 28, 2025

TO: Brian Riblet, City Manager

FROM: Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services Director 

SUBJECT: Surplus Equipment

Request

The following computer equipment is no longer in use or is scheduled for replacement due to its condition and obsolescence. These items should be designated as surplus by the Government Affairs Committee of City Council.

Manufacturer	Model	Quantity	Serial Number	Type
Dell	OptiPlex 7440	4	9Z46B02 1FBRKH2 1FCPKH2 90WRHK2	PC
Dell	OptiPlex 990	2	5G8F4V1 8FCLPS1	PC
Dell	OptiPlex 3050	2	C5228M2 FDTB9N2	PC
Dell	Precision M4800	1	18QVP12	Laptop
Dell	XPS 13	1	38RR0N2	Laptop
Dell	Latitude 3490	1	F275LP2	Laptop

This equipment does have value as parts and will be placed on GovDeals.com for auction. Hard drives have been removed or erased of all data and formatted according to US DoD 5220.22-M standards.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

April 2, 2025

TO: Brian K. Riblet, City Manager

FROM: Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services Director

SUBJECT: Service to the Community Grant Recommendations

Request

It is necessary for the Government Affairs Committee of City Council to review the Service to the Community Grant applications and consider staff recommendations for funding these projects.

Financial Impact

The Service to Community Grant is budgeted in 101.712.5401, Special Projects in the amount of \$5,000.

Background

The City received a record number of grant applications from local organizations. Grant applications were received from:

- A Kid Again
- Aves Theatre Booster
- Boy Scout Troop 674 (Eagle Scout Project)
- Evergreen Presbyterian Church
- Cincinnati Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)
- Montgomery Elementary
- Resident from the Winds

For the 2025 grant cycle, A Kid Again submitted an application requesting \$2,500 to fund adventures for six Montgomery families.

The Aves Theatre Booster submitted a \$2,500 request to help purchase a CNC Router machine as part of the Cutting-EDGE project, which combines art and technology, expanding student learning and technical skills.

Boy Scout Troop 674 requested \$2,500 for an Eagle Scout Project to create a Calming Butterfly and Pollinator Sensory Garden in one of the Montgomery Parks.

Evergreen Presbyterian Church requested \$1,000 to help fund their annual Earthcare Festival.

The Cincinnati Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) requested \$2,500 to fund three projects aimed at celebrating America's 250th anniversary.

Montgomery Elementary School requested \$2,321 to fund a 9-hole mini golf set for the physical education program.

A resident from the Winds requested \$2,100 for a neighborhood effort to plant native wildflowers for pollinators.

Recommendation

The Service to the Community Grant Team reviewed the applications and determined that they would all bring value to the community. Given the budget constraint, the following recommendations are being made.

- Grant \$2,250 to A Kid Again. This amount would fully fund three to four family adventures.
- Grant \$2,250 to the Aves Theatre Boosters.
- Grant \$500 to Evergreen Presbyterian Church.

The team recommends not funding the remaining applications.

- The team recommends that the Eagle Scout contact City Arborist Mike Rogers and potentially the Parks and Recreation Commission to collaborate on a project that enhances the existing pollinator efforts at Pioneer Park, making them sustainable and easier to maintain.
- The Cincinnati Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution has previously contacted staff and is planning a collaborative event, as listed in their grant. Staff is also working with them regarding the dedication of a tree and a bench, which will be funded through state funds for the 250th Anniversary celebrations.
- Montgomery Elementary was awarded a grant in 2024 for a project that reached a wider audience.

- The application from the Winds resident was limited in reach and did not indicate a solid commitment from neighbors. The project could still take place if the neighbors pooled their money.

Attachments: Grant applications

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8583**

Group/Organization Name

Aves Theatre Boosters

Address

7400 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Niki Weatherston

Contact Phone

(513) 884-4984

Contact Email

nikiweatherston@gmail.com

Program Title

Aves Theatre Cutting-EDGE (Enhancing Drama through Groundbreaking Equipment) project

Project/Program Start Date

05/01/2025

Project/Program End Date

12/31/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,500.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

The objectives of the Aves Theatre Boosters are to promote interest in and support of Sycamore High School's theatre program, Aves Theatre. We actively seek to involve parents, educators, students, and the local community in Aves Theatre, providing volunteer workers and funding for the theatre program to supplement what is budgeted by the school district. We foster a theatre arts program that facilitates educational and cultural enrichment for students and the wider community we serve.

Sycamore Community School's Aves Theatre program is the public community theatre program for Montgomery's community. It stages three main stage productions, an improvisational comedy show, a one-act play festival in December, a student-directed one-act festival in April, and a 30-minute Shakespeare performance each school year and a Summer Theatre Program.

Aves Theatre also stages an Improv show each year at the Universalist Church as part of the Live at the Uni series, supporting the Montgomery Arts Commission and their dedication to promoting the visual and performing arts in our local community. Students in Aves Theatre are involved in all aspects of our theatre productions. Set construction, painting, stage lighting, sound, theatrical costumes, and props are all put together with heavy student involvement. We believe in educating young people as

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8583**

students of the overall theatre art form and, as such, performers contribute heavily in technical areas.

The 2024/25 school year marks 50 years of outstanding theatre programming at Sycamore High School. In December, eight Broadway/National tour veterans joined alumni from the last 50 years and current students on the Aves stage for an extraordinary celebration of talent and community. As part of our 50th anniversary celebrations we also have a specific aim to raise funds to provide our students access to modern equipment and tools to elevate theirs and their audiences theatre arts experience.

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

The funds will be used to help facilitate the purchase of a CNC Router machine (approximate cost \$15,000) as part of the Cutting-EDGE project.

The objective of the Cutting-EDGE project is to combine art and technology, expanding hands-on student learning and technical skills through innovative tools for Sycamore High School's Aves Theatre.

Assistance in funding for this project will allow for the acquisition of a CNC Router machine, promoting safety, technology and creativity in the construction process. This innovative new tool is an automated cutter that features a digital design interface. It is a modern table saw can create any design that students can dream up. The immediate opportunity will accelerate the process of set construction through teamwork, intricate design, and precision cutting.

In an educational setting, this kind of sophisticated tool provides benefits beyond material construction alone. Innovative set design tools develop enriched learners and promote collaboration, creative initiative, and problem-solving. A CNC Router is a state-of-the-art cutting tool that gives students freedom to implement creative designs. If a student can dream up a set design, the CNC Router will enable them to build it.

Students in Aves Theatre are involved in all aspects of theatre production, including set construction, painting, stage lighting, sound, theatrical costumes, and props. Aves Theatre students not only perform on stage but contribute heavily in technical areas.

The Cutting-EDGE project challenges students to use creativity and technical skills together. Fueled by student imagination, the original sets designed will be enjoyed by the entire theatre community and their audiences.

Educator and student training will be key components of the Cutting-EDGE project. Progress in understanding the program design elements and CNC Router capabilities will be tracked. Curricula will be created as needed to guide understanding of these new technologies. Theatre Director, John Whapham, will be responsible for tracking student and educator engagement and involvement and adjusting the project educational needs as necessary.

Once educator and student training is complete, design practice projects can commence, culminating in a completed winter show set piece for early 2026.

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

The Aves Theatre program at Sycamore high school serves approximately 150 students a year in 5 classes daily. Two of these classes are dedicated technical theatre classes, however all students involved in theatre are expected to participate in technical aspects of the theatre arts.

Aves Theatre students present 3 mainstage shows a year and a summer show, along with Improv and one act shows, with a total community audience reach of up to 5700 patrons annually.

Aves Theatre supports Operation Give Back and Twin Lakes with invitations and tickets to shows.

When appropriate for the age group, Aves Theatre has provided field trip opportunities for district Elementary classes to attend a performance.

Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry # 8583

Importantly all Montgomery Sycamore Gold Card eligible residents receive a free ticket to every show. This provides completely free access to enjoy our programming for retirees in the district.

Publicity for each show is distributed throughout our community in various formats including but not limited to social media, our AvesTheatre.org website, district communications, and community noticeboards.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

There is a strong correlation between positive thinking and the arts, where engaging with art, whether through creations or appreciation, can significantly promote positive emotions, self-expression, and a more optimistic outlook on life. It essentially acts as a tool to cultivate a positive mindset. Research has shown that the act of creating art can even reduce stress and boost the release of dopamine, a neurotransmitter associated with happiness and wellbeing. Supporting a strong theatre program through all facets including its technical theatre facilities provides our whole Montgomery community with an important arts enrichment experience.

Consent

✓ Groups or organizations applying for the fund through this program are obligated to spend the funds in the manner described in their application. All funds are specifically used for the purposes described in this application must be returned to the City of Montgomery. Failure to meet the objectives outlined in the application may result in future disqualification from applying for and receiving the City of Montgomery Service to Community Grant Program funds. I hereby certify that all the facts, figures, and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. I agree to carry out the project or program as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the return of all Service to Community Grant Program funding to the City of Montgomery.

Completed W-9 Form

- [W9-Aves-Theatre-Boosters-24.pdf](#)

Notes



Admin Notification (ID: 605dedf5eb580)

added February 25, 2025 at 9:05 pm

WordPress successfully passed the notification email to the sending server.



New submission from Service and Engagement Grant Application

From notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com <notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com>
on behalf of
notify@proudcity.com <notify@proudcity.com>
Date Wed 1/8/2025 10:43 AM
To Matthew Vanderhorst <mvanderhorst@montgomeryohio.gov>

Group/Organization Name

A Kid Again

Address

9600 Montgomery Rd.
LL Suite 4
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Amanda Witt

Contact Title

Development Manager

Contact Phone

(859) 512-2177

Contact Email

awitt@akidagain.org

Program Title

Adventure Program

Project/Program Start Date

01/01/2025

Project/Program End Date

12/31/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,500.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

A Kid Again is a nonprofit that exists to foster hope, happiness and healing to families who are raising kids with life-threatening medical conditions. Our vision is a world where all children fighting a life-threatening condition and their families can make memories and give illness a time out. We do this through our Adventure Program where we provide cost-free, carefree experiences for families at local family friendly attractions. This allows these families to take a time-out from the day to day stressors and reconnect as a family, while also connecting with other families in similar situations. The memories and joy they are able to take away from these experiences are shown to have an incredible impact on the well-being of the entire family.

A Kid Again was founded in 1995 in Columbus Ohio and since then has grown to have six staffed chapters: Central Ohio, Northern Ohio, Southwest Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and the Carolinas, as well as seven Markets in California, Texas, Minnesota, Kentucky, Pittsburg, Mid-Atlantic and DMV. We serve over 18,000 families which equates to over 88,000 individuals impacted by our program nation-wide.

In the local Southwest Ohio chapter we serve over 1,400 families (8,000+ individuals) and we serve families from Northern Kentucky up to Dayton. In the past 5 years we have more than doubled the amount of families we have been able to serve.

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

The funds received by the City of Montgomery would go toward our 2025 Adventure Program. This year we have the following line up of Adventures in the works for our families: Valentines Bash, Cincinnati Zoo, BB Riverboat, Capes & Crowns Walk & Family Fun Fest, Drive-In Movie Night, Kings Island, Cincinnati Reds, and our annual Holiday Adventure.

At each Adventure the families receive free admission, parking, food and some type of keepsake to take home with them.

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

We currently serve six families that reside within Montgomery in our program. We receive applications and referrals through various sources, but our largest being word of mouth and Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

Our program very much is connected to mental wellness and an overall increase in each family members wellbeing by actively participating in our Adventure Programs. It allows parents and guardians to experience an outing with their kids that doesn't require any financial strain as well as knowing that all of the details have been thought of and taken care of by an A Kid Again staff member or Volunteer. They can truly just show up and enjoy a few hours out of their busy schedule. For the siblings, it provides a safe space where they can let their guard down. At an A Kid Again Adventure they don't have to worry that others are going to stare, make comments or react negatively to their brother or sister who have the diagnosis. They are able to connect with other siblings and find a sense of belonging. For the enrolled child, the Adventures give them something to look forward to. It can help increase their willingness to get through tough appointments, treatments and procedures. It also gives them a respite from the doctors appointments, therapy appointments, hospital visits and more. An A Kid Again Adventure provides a sigh of relief for the entire family.

Consent

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New submission from Service and Engagement Grant Application

From notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com <notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com>
on behalf of
notify@proudcity.com <notify@proudcity.com>
Date Fri 2/28/2025 8:49 PM
To Matthew Vanderhorst <mvanderhorst@montgomeryohio.gov>

Group/Organization Name

Boy Scout Troop 674 (Eagle Scout Project)

Address

9991 Zig Zag Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Oliver Mencher

Contact Title

Mr.

Contact Phone

(513) 834-0364

Contact Email

Olivermencher12@gmail.com

Program Title

Calming Butterfly & Pollinator Sensory Garden

Project/Program Start Date

06/07/2025

Project/Program End Date

06/28/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,500.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

674, chartered by the Church of the Savior United Methodist Church, is over 65 years old and boasts a rich history of an active outdoor program. With over 70 active scouts, the troop organizes monthly camps and emphasizes a “boy-led” approach. Our troop is part of many activities including Matthew 25 Ministries, helping out the church that hosts us, dozens of Eagle Scout projects to help the community, Scouting for Food, and mulch sales. We are committed to giving back to the community and are always eager to assist in any way we can.

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

Objective: Create a garden filled with butterfly-attracting plants, soft textures, and relaxing seating to engage visitors' senses and sights. A place to get away from everyday stress of the world.

Features:

- Native pollinator plants (lavender, milkweed, echinacea) for sight and smell
- Butterfly houses for conservation
- Benches for relaxation
- Wind chimes for auditory stimulation
- Mulch or stone paths for easy navigation

I envision this project being built within an existing park. We recommend Swaim or Montgomery Park, but regardless of the city's final decision, I am confident it will be an excellent choice.

Garden Layout (Approx. 20ft x 20ft or 15ft x 20ft)

Planting Area: ~200 250 sq. ft. for pollinator-friendly flowers & shrubs

Pathway: ~3-foot-wide paths, covering ~100 sq. ft.

Seating Area: ~50 sq. ft. with benches

Item,Quantity,Cost Estimate

Pollinator Plants (Lavender, Milkweed, Echinacea, Coneflowers, Bee Balm, etc.),40–50 plants,\$800–900

Mulch (2-3" depth, covering ~200 sq. ft.),~3 cubic yards,\$200

Butterfly Houses,2–3,\$250

Benches (weather-resistant wood or metal),2,\$700

Wind Chimes (large outdoor-quality),2,\$150

Pathway Materials (Crushed Stone or Wood Chips, ~100 sq. ft.),~1.5 cubic yards,\$300

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,300

Weekend 1: Clear grass, prepare soil, lay pathways

Weekend 2: Plant flowers, install butterfly houses

Weekend 3: Install benches, wind chimes, and finalize landscaping

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

This project has the potential to benefit an unlimited number of people. To spread awareness about our safe space, we will advertise it in the Sycamore Schools newsletter. It would also be great to post flyers outside of whatever park we chose to put our haven in. We hope it can make a positive impact on as many people as possible, truly making a difference in our community.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

This project aims to enhance the community's well-being and mental health by providing a safe haven where individuals can unwind and alleviate the stressors of everyday life.

Consent

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Completed W-9 Form

- [w9-apology.docx](#)

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8589**

Group/Organization Name

Cincinnati Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)

Address

9378 S. Mason Montgomery Rd
Suite 103
Mason, Ohio 45040-8827
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Scott Freeman

Contact Title

President Cincinnati SAR

Contact Phone

(513) 793-2585

Contact Email

dsfreeman@fuse.net

Program Title

City of Montgomery America 250 Commemorations

Project/Program Start Date

05/01/2025

Project/Program End Date

07/31/2026

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,500.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

The Cincinnati Chapter, established in 1889, is one of the oldest, largest, and most active SAR chapters in the country. The chapter currently has 276 active members, all of which have proven that they are direct descendants of one or more Revolutionary War patriots. Every year the chapter receives multiple awards and recognition from the Ohio Society SAR (~1,800 members) and the National Society SAR (~37,000 members) for our extensive programs and activities supporting SAR's mission of promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.

In 2021 the Cincinnati Chapter installed and dedicated a memorial at Hopewell Cemetery honoring the eight Revolutionary War patriots buried there (please see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tz4orlmgubM>).

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8589**

Since January 2022, our monthly meetings have been held at the Original Montgomery Inn, and several of our members, including the current President, are long-time residents of the City of Montgomery.

We are a nonpolitical and nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to public service objectives that are patriotic, historical, and educational in nature.

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

Three subprojects/subprograms are proposed that will help the city and its residents commemorate and celebrate America's 250th anniversary. This year is a one-time opportunity to plan and complete these exciting projects by July 4th, 2026.

1. Purchase, install, and dedicate a granite bench commemorating America's 250th anniversary. Location to be selected in cooperation with the city.
2. Purchase, plant, mark, and dedicate a Liberty Tree (disease resistant American elm) in the spirit of the original Liberty Tree in Boston. Location to be selected in cooperation with the city.
3. Hold a public event commemorating the 250th anniversary of the death of the city's namesake, Revolutionary War hero General Richard Montgomery, who was killed at the Battle of Quebec on December 31st, 1775. This event is suggested to be held at Dulle Park Lodge on the Saturday immediately following the anniversary, January 3rd, 2026.

The bench and tree will be part of the National Society SAR's "Liberty Tree and Benches Program", which provides standard designs, inscriptions, and tree markers. Please see <https://america250sar.org/libertytree/> for examples and more information. Projects are administered and funded at the local level and can be customized.

In addition to #3, public events will be held to dedicate the bench and tree. So there will be up to three separate events depending on locations and timing. (Two events may be combined if they can be held at the same time and location).

The Cincinnati Chapter SAR will take the lead in organizing and planning the programs for each event. All events will feature living history provided by the chapter's Nolan Carson Memorial Color Guard. Other local and civic organizations will be encouraged to participate.

The Cincinnati Chapter is prepared to provide additional funding for these projects, which is likely to be needed if the entire program is implemented. The bench alone can cost \$1,700-\$5,000 depending on the supplier and the material (type and source of the granite).

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

Like other public events within the city, it is anticipated that these events will be placed on the city's calendar, featured in the Montgomery Bulletin and on the city's internet/social media sites, and communicated to residents by e-mail. It is hoped that all interested residents will be aware and have the opportunity to attend.

In addition, the Cincinnati Chapter will promote the event through its membership, website, newsletter, etc., and through the SAR state and national organizations.

It will be free to the public, but reservations will probably be required to limit attendance at the winter, indoor event at Dulle Park.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

These events will provide the opportunity for residents and neighbors to get out, socialize, and join others in celebrating and commemorating America's 250th anniversary. Attendees will learn more about American history and the city's links to the American

Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry # 8589

Revolution.

It is anticipated that the bench and tree will be installed in prominent public/recreational spaces and/or along popular walking/running/bicycling routes, enhancing those areas, and providing rest and shade for those that use them. For generations, they will also serve as permanent memorials and reminders of 250 years of American freedom and independence.

Consent

✓ Groups or organizations applying for the fund through this program are obligated to spend the funds in the manner described in their application. All funds are specifically used for the purposes described in this application must be returned to the City of Montgomery. Failure to meet the objectives outlined in the application may result in future disqualification from applying for and receiving the City of Montgomery Service to Community Grant Program funds. I hereby certify that all the facts, figures, and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. I agree to carry out the project or program as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the return of all Service to Community Grant Program funding to the City of Montgomery.

Completed W-9 Form

- [Form-W9-CCSAR.pdf](#)

Notes



Admin Notification (ID: 605dedf5eb580)

added 22 hours ago

WordPress successfully passed the notification email to the sending server.

New submission from Service and Engagement Grant Application

From notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com <notify=proudcity.com@getproudcity.com>
on behalf of
notify@proudcity.com <notify@proudcity.com>
Date Mon 3/3/2025 8:26 AM
To Matthew Vanderhorst <mvanderhorst@montgomeryohio.gov>

Group/Organization Name

Evergreen Presbyterian Church, Montgomery Ohio

Address

5325 Cooper Rd, Unit D
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Dixie Moore

Contact Title

Member, Earthcare Festival Committee

Contact Phone

(859) 227-6165

Contact Email

dixiemore1501@gmail.com

Program Title

Earthcare Festival

Project/Program Start Date

06/28/2025

Project/Program End Date

07/12/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$1,000.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

The Evergreen Presbyterian congregation (EPC) is an Earth Care Congregation, pledged to be careful stewards of the earth and to work to restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family.

Evergreen's Earth Care team's mission is to inspire our congregation and community to believe in and act on our responsibilities to care for God's creation. The merger of the Montgomery and Blue Ash Presbyterian Churches in 2023 resulted in a stronger and larger Earth Care team using the church facilities available on Zig Zag Road. The EPC team (a continuation of the earthcare team of the Montgomery Presbyterian Church) has applied again for its 5th recertification as an earth care congregation in 2025 from the Presbyterian Church USA.

We hold monthly recycling collections of plastics for delivery to the Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub and periodic specialized, recycling collections of electronics, nursery pots, batteries and Styrofoam. We volunteer at the Montgomery Farmers Market to glean produce for Needs pantry. We sponsor/take nature walks, hold informative seminars, and regularly feature creation care prayers, anthems and hymns in our Sunday services. We have started a pollinator garden on our church grounds and include native and pollinator plants in the updated church landscaping. In 2024 we held our first Earth Care Festival assisted by a \$500 Service and Engagement Grant from the city of Montgomery. The cost of the festival was primarily funded from our church Outreach budget and from donations from volunteers. However, last year's grant from the city of Montgomery was key to underwriting security fencing, green room support for the volunteers and additional promotion to the community. The cooperation of the Montgomery police was also instrumental in managing overnight site security and day-of traffic.

Last year, more than 40 church volunteers (approximately 60% of our active congregation) helped stage the first festival with eighteen booths providing information, tips, and examples of caring for God's creation. Local organizations included the Cincinnati Recycle and Reuse Hub, Faith Communities Go Green, the Climate Reality Project, Drive Electric Cincinnati, the Society of St. Andrew and NEEDS (food insecurity), the Ohio Valley Forestry Fellowship, the League of Women Voters (voter registration), Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, Our Land Organics (native plants), Sustainergy Cooperative (solar education) and Gorman Heritage Farm (organic gardening).

Church-sponsored booths gave away tree seedlings, samples of laundry detergent sheets, and a meatless cookbook created by the congregation. We held a sale of homegrown plants, decorated the festival with "earth care" pledge ribbons, and introduced visitors to the wonders of leaf-cutter bees, a super pollinator.

Our Kids Zone offered recycled craft projects, a paper scavenger hunt for pollinators, face painting, and a pollinator-themed bean bag toss. Music, a bake sale, and ice cream booth (staffed by the Boy Scouts) rounded out the day. More than 50 of our neighbors enjoyed the festival, learned more about creation care, and experienced the love of the people of Evergreen Presbyterian Church."

We continue to look for new ways to inspire our congregation and our neighbors to be good stewards of creation. Our biggest project for 2025 will see us building on the success of our first Earth Care Festival in 2024

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

We are planning our second Earthcare Festival to take place on June 28, 9 AM to 1 PM on the large parking lot and grounds at Evergreen Presbyterian Church on Zig Zag Road. In 2024 we had a gorgeous sunny day without a cloud in sight and hopefully it will be similar this year. However, we are preparing for less optimal conditions and will have a rain date of July 12.

We have learned from last year and believe that we can have a bigger and better festival for the community this year. The funds will go to help provide the setups required for the festival to be successful. All booth and staff are volunteer from the church or community. Participating booths submit a written application and a waiver of liability. There is much planning and communication both weeks before and during the festival with the city and the police. There will be a welcome booth on the driveway at festival entrance, signage will be uniform and attractive and each participating booth will have a Poster on each booth to identify content.

Again, each booth will have a foot print of 10 f x 10 ft. We are asking participants to supply their own tables and equipment's, however the Earthcare team will be available for assistance, ie. Electrical hookups etc. A bake sale benefitting NEEDS food pantry, an earth care themed scavenger hunt for kids and a pollinator bean bag toss were a hit last years and will be continued. We are hoping to have a "Blessing of the Animals" integrated into the 2025 festival.

Again, there will be music and facepainting and simple earth related activities in the children's area. The plant sale will be discontinued since the summer date is not ideal for selling plants. Scout Troop 258 will again help with set up and tear down and provide water and ice cream with donations going to NEEDS. The nonprofits and organizations that had booths in 2024 will be invited to return. We anticipate that we will have more trees to give away in coordination with the Ohio Valley Forestry Fellowship. Seedlings are already on order to be planted in pots by the church to be given away at the festival. Because of our collaboration last year, the church has been asked to be a location on March 31st to bag and organize distribution to PG employees.

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

Ideally will have a turnout of 500+ people. 500 people was our goal last year however the turnout was much smaller but the 50+ neighbors who came were enthusiastic. The Montgomery residents that are our core audience are the families, citizens, businesses and other faith congregations within Montgomery and neighboring areas. Our publicity campaign will start earlier this year and target more new outlets and internet locales.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

Again, our goal is to educate and encourage sustainability and care for the earth in a positive life affirming joyful setting

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8592**

Group/Organization Name

Montgomery Elementary School

Address

9609 Montgomery Rd
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Austin Young

Contact Title

Teacher

Contact Phone

(513) 686-1730

Contact Email

youngau@sycamoreschools.org

Program Title

Physical Education Program

Project/Program Start Date

04/07/2025

Project/Program End Date

05/31/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,321.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

Montgomery Elementary is the public elementary school serving the Montgomery community.

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

I want to implement a new golf unit. This would cover the cost of a 9 hole mini golf set per a quote I have.

<https://select.schoolspecialty.com/perfect-9-hole-miniature-golf-course-set-2124392>

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry # 8592

This will impact all 600+ students in our school.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

This relates to healthy living and exercise. Golf is a sport connected to our society. From childhood memories to business meetings, golf impacts our life. This is a great way to provide an introductory unit on an important sport.

Consent

✓ Groups or organizations applying for the fund through this program are obligated to spend the funds in the manner described in their application. All funds are specifically used for the purposes described in this application must be returned to the City of Montgomery. Failure to meet the objectives outlined in the application may result in future disqualification from applying for and receiving the City of Montgomery Service to Community Grant Program funds. I hereby certify that all the facts, figures, and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. I agree to carry out the project or program as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the return of all Service to Community Grant Program funding to the City of Montgomery.

Completed W-9 Form

- [W9_Sycamore-Community-Schools_2023Aug.pdf](#)

Notes



Admin Notification (ID: 605dedf5eb580)

added 18 hours ago

WordPress successfully passed the notification email to the sending server.

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8528**

Group/Organization Name

Native Wildflowers for Pollinators

Address

7415 Baywind Dr.
Montgomery, Ohio 45242
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Name

Gina Daly

Contact Phone

(614) 266-7718

Contact Email

ginadaly@me.com

Program Title

Native Wildflowers for Pollinators

Project/Program Start Date

11/03/2025

Project/Program End Date

11/17/2025

Funding Amount Requested

\$2,100.00

Detail the group's history, purpose, accomplishments, and goals.

I have been a resident of The Winds since July 2008, and have always loved spending time in our yard, attempting to create beautiful landscapes. I noticed that after using Terminix's organic mosquito service for 3 summers, not only did I not have many mosquitoes, I didn't have many insects in our yard at all. This unnerved me because we need insects and pollinators for our food supply, and I constantly read about the plummeting native bee populations across the country. My dad also loves to garden, and has 10 acres at my parents' home in Louisville, KY. He has been planting wildflower seeds from American Meadows for years and suggested that I do so also. Dad has a Masters and PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering, and was one of the original students chosen by Governor Gaylord Nelson to roll out Earth Day in 1970. So, you could say that I was raised to be a tree hugger, someone who loves all trees, bushes and flowers.

My husband and I stopped using the mosquito service, stopped using all Terminix services, stopped using Roundup and stopped fertilizing our lawns. I realized Dad's 10 acres are green, but there isn't a ton of actual grass. We decided to plant huge wildflower beds in our backyard to attract pollinators, with the hope of installing bee hives someday.

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8528**

In the fall of 2020, we rented a sod cutter from Blue Ash Equipment Rental Center. My husband, our neighbors and I worked together to cut the sod in a 100' x 10' area across the back of our yard, and an 80' x 5' area across one side of our yard. Our neighbors needed the sod, and we needed to get rid of the sod to plant native wildflower seeds. So, it worked out well!

I sowed (spreading seeds and stomping them into the dirt) native Midwest wildflower seeds with the intention of attracting pollinators. The mix has annuals so we had beautiful flowers in the spring, summer and fall of 2021. The mix also has perennials so we had different beautiful flowers in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Guess what?! There are bees all over our flowers! I smile every time I see them! What I didn't expect was how much the birds, bunnies, chipmunks, squirrels and tons of other insects would also love the wildflower beds for shelter and/or food. Deer do not eat them, so I have happily given my hostas to the deer in exchange for the colorful wildflower beds!

In the fall of 2024, I was at a Farmers Market and talked to Engaged Bees as I bought honey from them. I found out that the wife (I don't know her name) sells honey at Farmers Markets and educates the public about the importance of planting flowers, while her husband Scott tends to bee hives at Gorman Heritage Farms and several other hives all across Cincinnati. Scott came out to our yard and determined that it would be perfect for 2-4 hives. We have a koi pond in our yard, and bees need a water source in addition to plenty of flowers. Scott's intention is to install the hives in our yard this spring and will tend to them for us.

My jaw dropped when I learned that each hive has 60,000 bees! I thought, "That's a lot of bees! I should create a community project to plant a lot more native wildflower beds!" Bees fly up to 2 miles away to find flowers! Many people have noticed our wildflower beds when they walk in the neighborhood and have stopped to ask me about them. Many have said, "I would love to plant a flower bed like that!"

I would love to create more awareness of the need for native wildflowers and create more beauty for neighbors to enjoy in their yards. Montgomery is already recognized as a Tree City USA. Why not also become known as a "wildflower and pollinator" city, too?!

Describe how your group plans to use the funds being requested. Please be as specific as possible.

I would purchase 25 lbs of Native Wildflower Seed Mix from American Meadows, sand from a hardware store (to help with spreading the seeds) and would rent a sod cutter from Blue Ash Tool Rental for 2 weeks.

We will be able to plant 1/2 acre, which is 21,780 square feet. I planted 1400 square feet in our yard.

Ideally 21 different yards would each plant 1000 square feet. This could be across the backyard (100 feet x 10 feet deep). Or a section that is 50 feet by 20 feet deep.

I am estimating that if each home averages 2 hours with the sod cutter, we can work on 5 yards each Saturday, 5 yards each Sunday, and 1 yard each weeknight. The maximum number of yards we can work on between November 3-16 is 30 yards.

With tax, the seeds will cost \$1293.53 (I will buy them at 25% off, this is the 25% off price).

With tax, the sod cutter will cost \$666.23.

Sand will cost less than \$100 with tax.

I am requesting \$2000

How will you identify Montgomery residents in need of services and the anticipated number of recipients?

I am happy to roll out this idea on The Winds Facebook page and know that I would get plenty of takers! I will need to identify people who want wildflowers in their yard AND people who want sod.

**Service and Engagement Grant Application : Entry #
8528**

If Montgomery wants to include this in the Montgomery Bulletin, they are more than welcome to!

The right candidate for wildflower seeds will:

1. be willing to have more insects, birds, bunnies, squirrels and chipmunks in their yard because the wildflower beds will attract them. Will not attempt to lessen the number of insects in their yards.
2. be willing to help with the sod cutting and/or sod rolling
3. be willing to water their yard for 1 week before we cut the sod if we haven't had much rain and the yard is dry
4. be willing to sprinkle the seeds onto the ground after sod cutting, and stop them into the dirt
4. be willing to water the seeds (the seeds only need to be watered until they are 6" tall)
5. will agree to not mulch the wildflower bed area. Wildflowers don't like mulch and they naturally produce foliage over the winter to protect the earth.
6. will send me the measurements of the area they would like to plant. .

The right candidate for sod:

1. will be willing to help with the sod cutting, sod rolling, transport sod to their home, unroll the sod at their home
2. will send me the measurements of the area they would like to sod

If the City of Montgomery needs the sod, that would be great, too! Would need city employees to help with sod cutting, sod rolling, transport sod, unroll sod.

Is this program related to community wellness, such as mental wellness, healthy eating, healthy living, and exercise? If so, how?

YES!!!! It gets the community working together, gets the community off of their phones and enjoying the outdoors, gets the community exercising (sod cutting and rolling is exhausting so we will need a lot of hands!), gets the community aware of the environment, creates beautiful spaces that have an impact on the animals and insects that share their earth with us!

If this is as successful as I anticipate it will be, I am willing to offer to organize this in future years. Each family would have to pay if I don't have a grant to pay for it each year. I think that receiving a grant and telling people that they don't have to pay will be much more appealing to them. :)

Notes



Admin Notification (ID: 605dedf5eb580)

added February 9, 2025 at 8:05 am

WordPress successfully passed the notification email to the sending server.



April 1, 2025

TO: Brian Riblet, City Manager
FROM: Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Surplus Items

The public works department is requesting that the following items be declared as surplus by the Government Affairs Committee of City Council. If approved as surplus, the items will be sold through GovDeals.

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>APPROX. VALUE</u>
FMC Spray Tank, Model #DP20-100	\$200
GillSU 200 Ballfield Drag	\$200
Brown Manufacturing Bed Edger, Model #F780H	\$200
Vibratory Wacker Compactor	\$300
2005 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 Pick-up Truck	\$1500

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

April 11, 2025

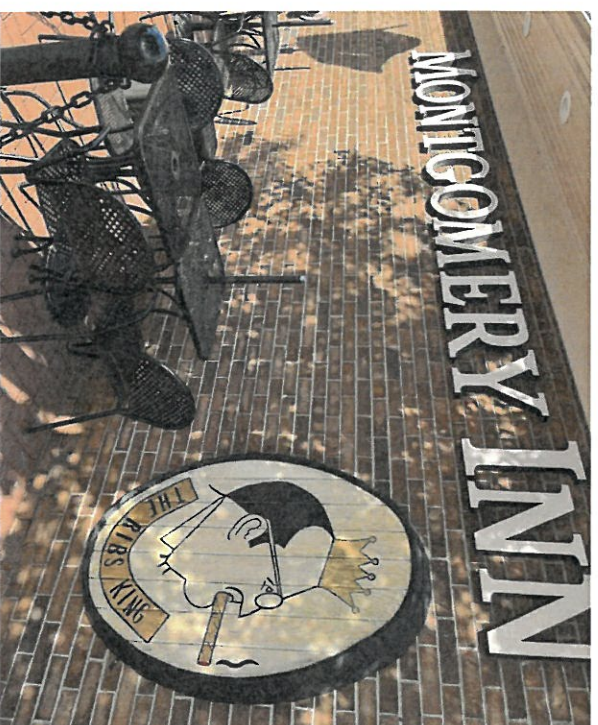
TO: Brian K. Riblet, City Manager
FROM: Tracy Henao, Assistant City Manager
SUBJECT: Business Co-branding Initiative Discussion

Background

Per Goal C.4.4 of the Strategic Plan, Staff has been working with Kolar Design to create a co-brand resource for businesses located within the community for promotion purposes and to potentially recruit new businesses to the community. The project will help business retention and expansion by allowing existing and new businesses to benefit from the City's strong brand recognition. The new co-brand should reflect the character of Montgomery, which complements the existing City brand without replicating it. Kolar Design hosted a workshop to solicit feedback from key staff members to define the strategic approach to the co-branding campaign and has created three potential creative directions, which were discussed with the Government Affairs Committee at the October 14, 2024, meeting. After receiving direction from the Committee, Kolar Design created three design concepts, which were reviewed by the Government Affairs Committee at the February 10, 2025 meeting. After receiving feedback on the designs, Kolar Design has refined the top choice, created options for refining the wording of the tagline and provided options on color, which are included in the packet.

Request

Staff would like the opportunity to discuss the concepts with members of the Government Affairs Committee at the meeting on April 14, 2025, and obtain feedback on the final draft and the color options.



Co-Branding Design Development

2025.03.06



kolar

CONTENTS

1. Where we've been: Selected direction
2. Design Development: Color Studies, Mark, Sample Application Yard Sign
3. Nomenclature Options: Charmed

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

CO-BRAND CONCEPT 1

Find Us in Montgomery: Locally Owned, Uniquely Charmed
A blend of historic charm with contemporary flair

Discover Montgomery's perfect blend of historic charm and modern luxury. From lively storefronts to dynamic dining, our city bursts with unique experiences and exciting moments. Celebrate the heritage that defines us and the modern touches that inspire us.



Applications

- Stamp / Stickers for businesses
- Digital Ad
- Social Media Frames / Graphics Set



DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Final logomark - black and white



Color Options - Montgomery Brand Guidelines

COLOR | Primary Palette

The City of Montgomery brand has a primary color palette which should be given priority and emphasis when being applied to various applications and designs. Consistent use of the primary colors will help build recognizability and strengthen the visual brand.

Color *	PANTONE	CMYK	RGB	HEX
MONTGOMERY BLUE	Pantone 541	C 100 M 78 Y 32 K 22	R 0 G 59 B 113	003871
LAMP LIGHT GOLD	Pantone 122	C 35 M 17 Y 85 K 0	R 205 G 190 B 64	FFD940
BRICK RED	Pantone 1905	C 21 M 97 Y 90 K 12	R 178 G 41 B 46	B2292E
MONTGOMERY BLUE (DARK)	Pantone 541	C 11 M 79 Y 30 K 0	R 175 G 120 B 208	AFB8D0

City of Montgomery Brand Guidelines | September 2020

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COLOR | Secondary Palette

The City of Montgomery brand has a secondary palette which should be used when additional colors are needed for secondary logos and design applications.

Tertiary colors may be used sparingly for additional graphic applications such as special or seasonal events. However, these colors should only be used in small amounts and never outweigh the primary and secondary colors.

Color *	PANTONE	CMYK	RGB	HEX
LEAF GREEN	Pantone 367 C	C 40 M 0 Y 81 K 0	R 182 G 212 B 94	A2D45E
SKY BLUE	Pantone 298 C	C 65 M 10 Y 10 K 0	R 60 G 180 B 229	3CB8E5
ORANGE	Pantone 144 C	C 3 M 54 Y 60 K 0	R 239 G 139 B 34	EFB822
VIOLET	Pantone 7655 C	C 39 M 17 Y 11 K 0	R 84 G 117 B 169	A45A95

TERTIARY COLORS



Personal Culture Brand Communications

City of Montgomery Brand Guidelines | September 2020

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Color Studies



Final logomark - Color



Final logomark - no secondary tagline

Use when secondary tagline appears somewhere else on the page,
Or when space does not allow for secondary tagline



Final logomark - secondary tagline treatments

When secondary tagline appears somewhere else on the page, play with type or keep it simple.



LOCALLY INSPIRED
UNIQUELY CHARMED

LOCALLY INSPIRED
UNIQUELY CHARMED

Final logomark - no secondary tagline

Use when secondary tagline appears somewhere else on the page,
Or when space does not allow for secondary tagline



Brand Application - Yard Sign

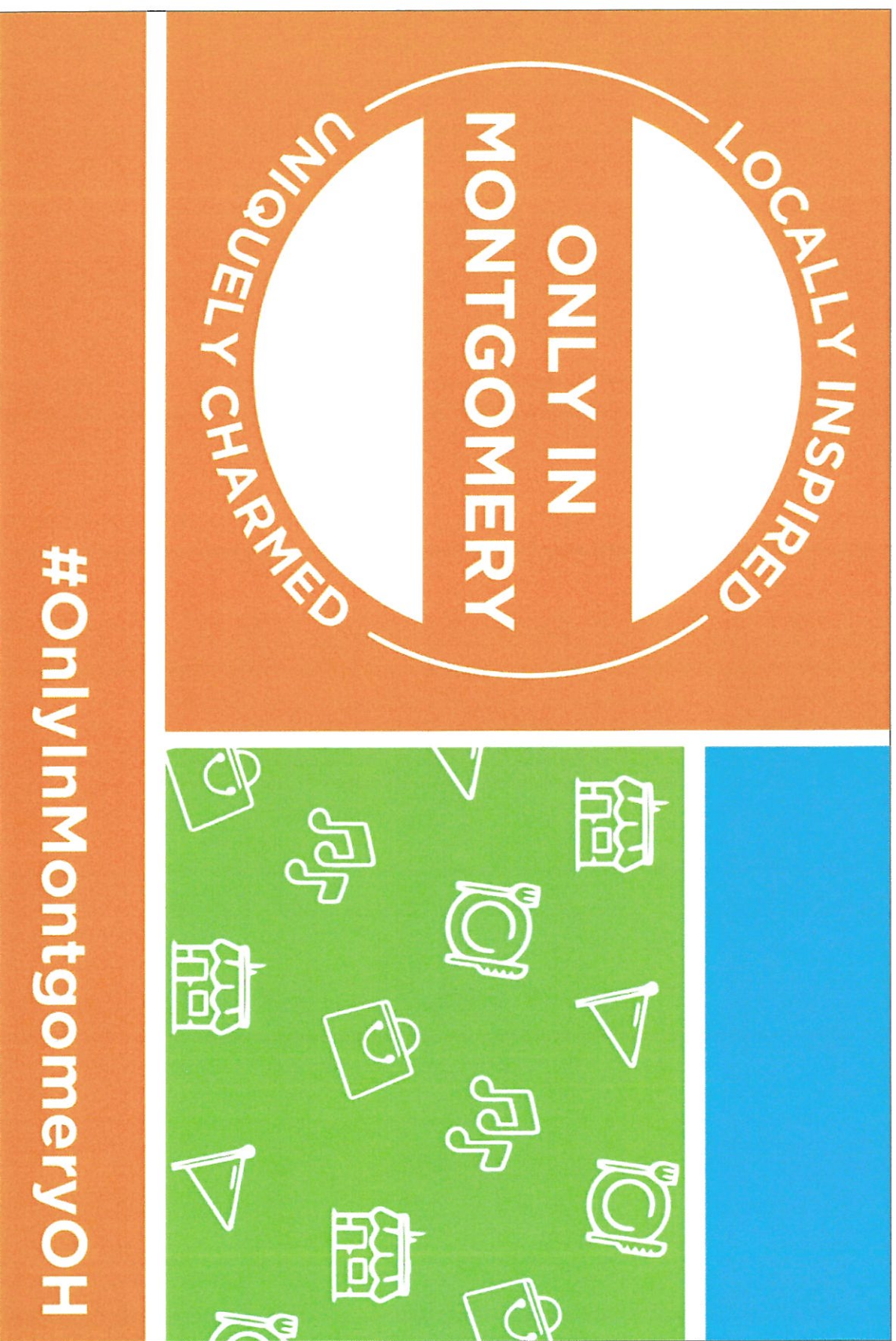


www.WebAddress.com

#OnlyInMontgomeryOH



Brand Application - Yard Sign



Brand Application - Yard Sign

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES



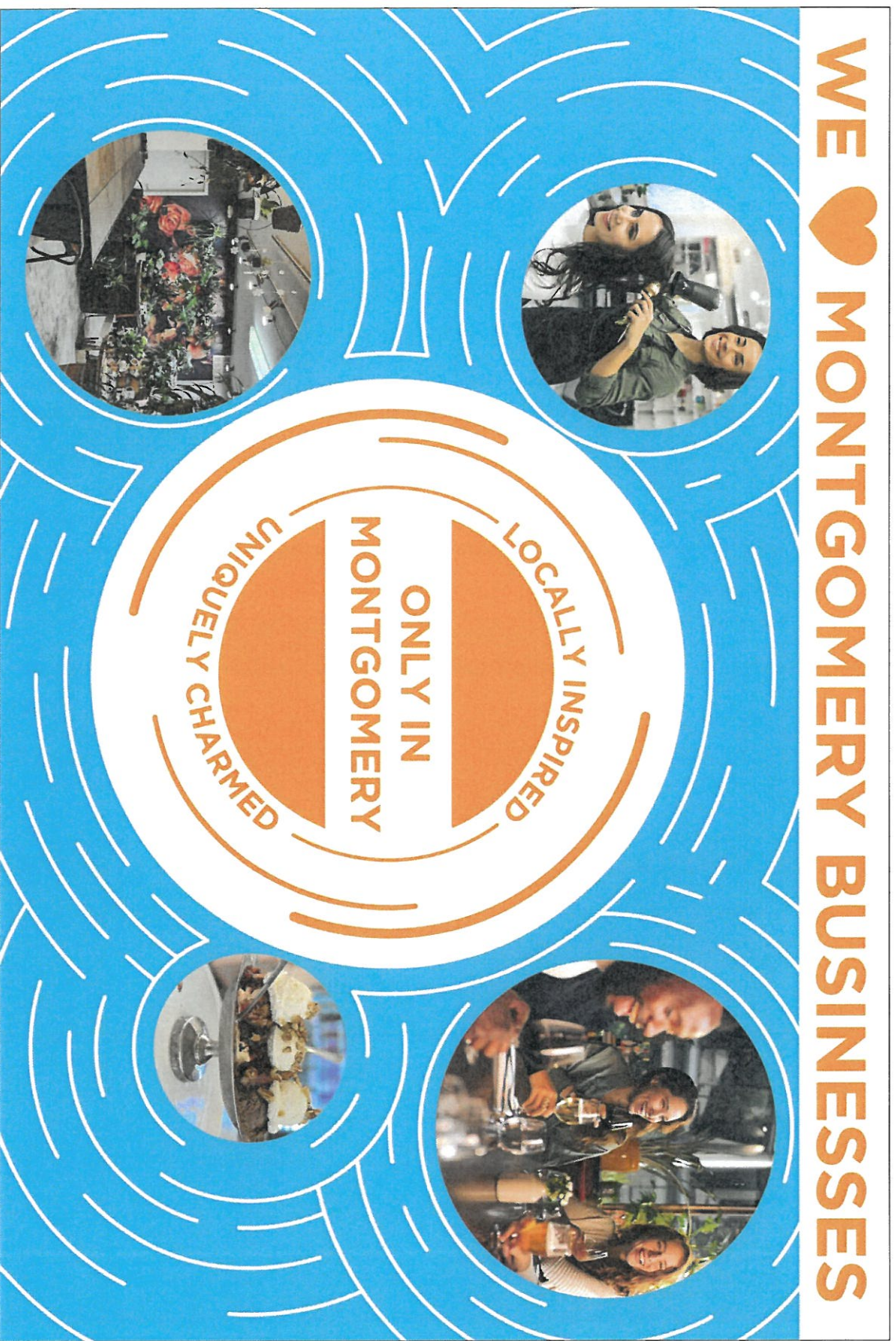
UNIQUELY CHARMED

ONLY IN
MONTGOMERY

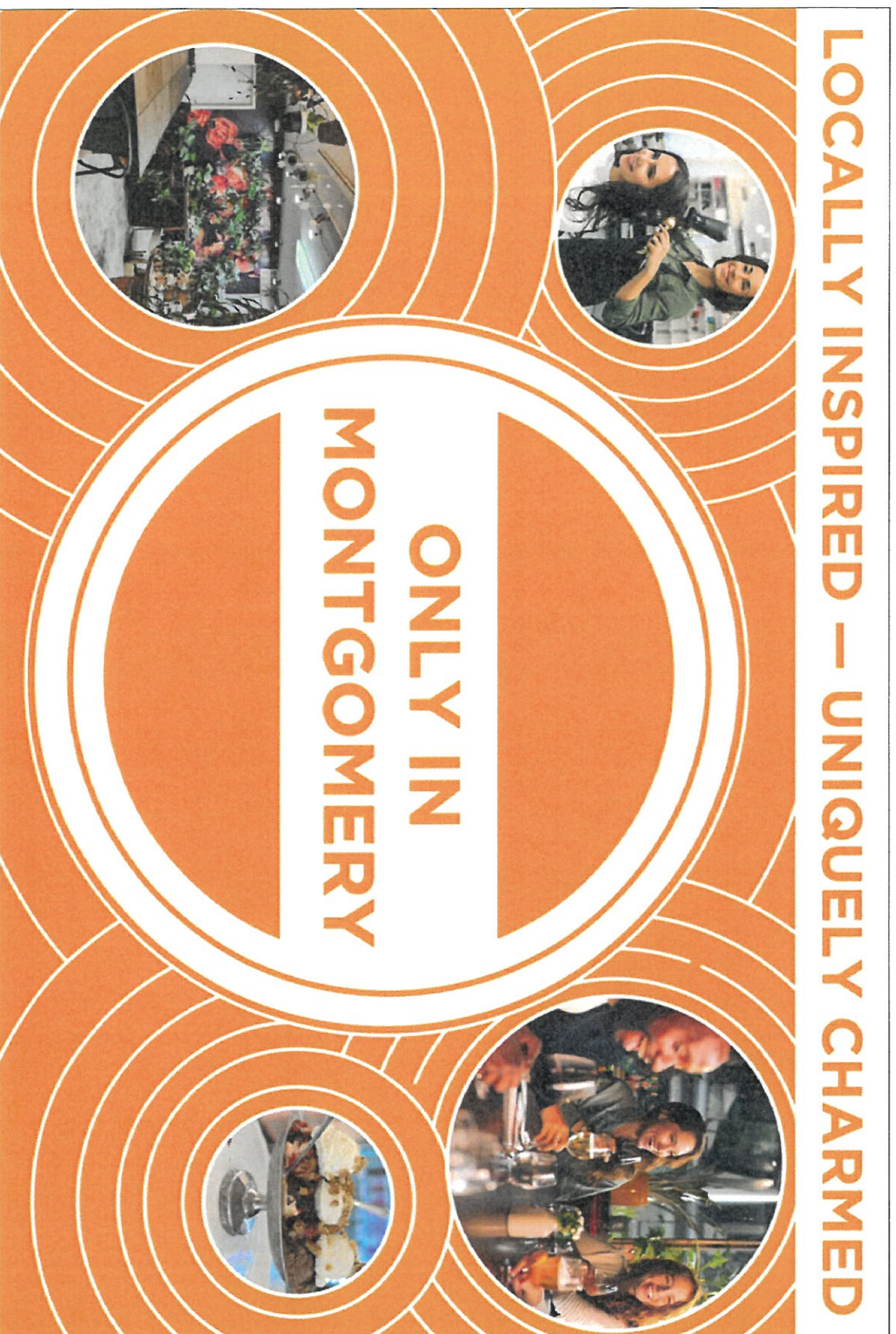
LOCALLY INSPIRED



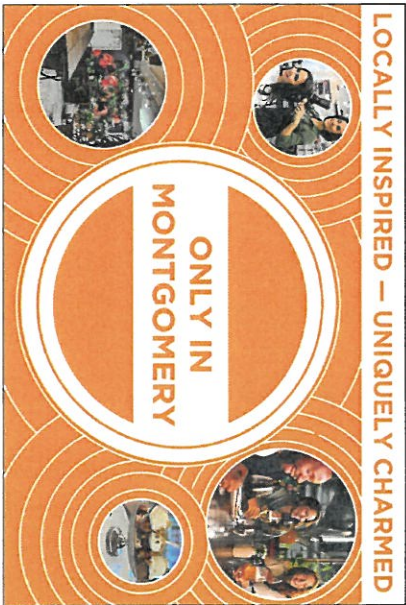
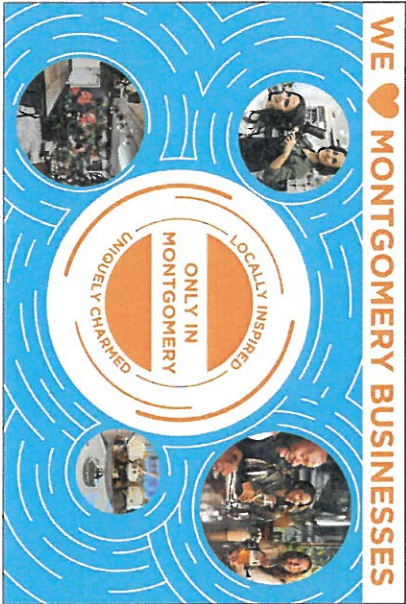
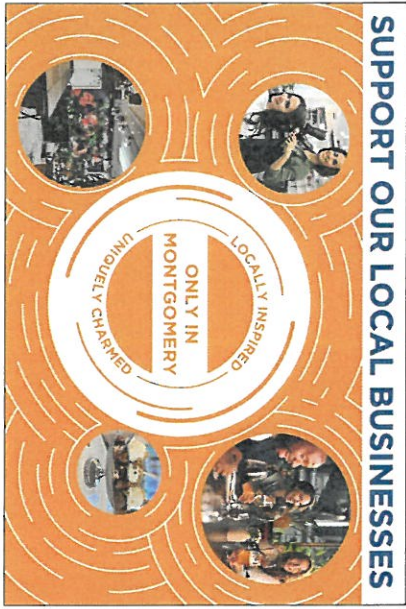
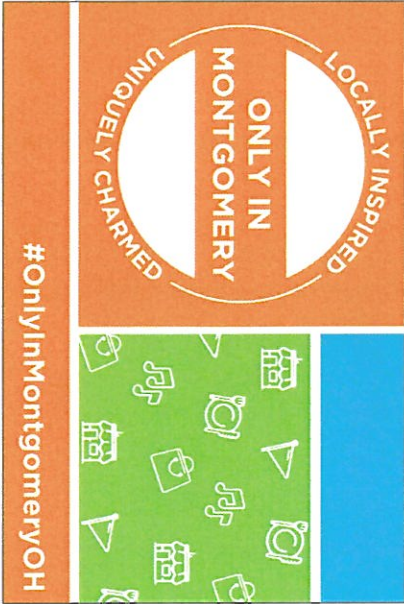
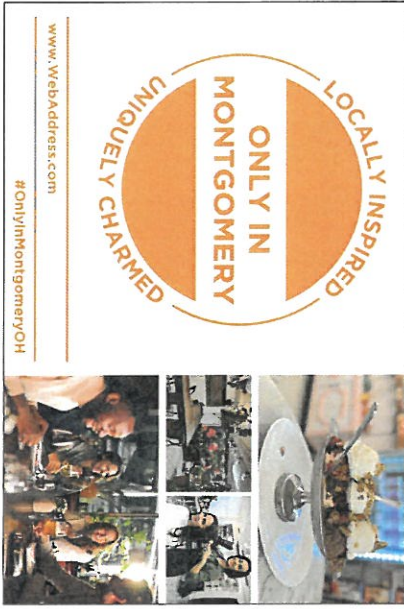
Brand Application - Yard Sign



Brand Application - Yard Sign



Brand Application - Yard Sign



Brand Application - Yard Sign Mockup



Nomenclature Options - “Charmed”

Preferred Selection:

1. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Charmed: Only in Montgomery.”

Alternatives:

2. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Delightful: Only in Montgomery.”
3. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Elegant: Only in Montgomery.”
4. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Exceptional: Only in Montgomery.”
5. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Timeless: Only in Montgomery.”
6. “Locally Inspired, Uniquely Welcoming: Only in Montgomery.”

SCOPE

*Kolar to manage the entire process, holding the brainstorming/ideation sessions for the development of the "tagline", providing all design of the assets to the city with a plan for executing the communications and roll-out of digital and physical artwork to be done as a campaign. **Kolar to create the visual lock up (icon/typographic solution) to be used for promotion by the City on websites, QR code applications and promotion by the business community.** All applications to be implemented by the City. Kolar will transfer all digital assets for this project.*

PROCESS

Discovery:

- Kickoff Meeting, planning for workshop ideation session.
- Facilitate an Ideation Session with committee to develop 3 themes.
- Final recommendation summary report.

Design:

- Review meeting to finalize the creative direction (typographic lock ups + QR code promotions) applications (website, ID tag)

THANK YOU + NEXT STEPS

1. City to select Co-Brand Concept.
2. City to select final applications.
3. Kolar to develop final Co-brand lockup & gain City approval.
4. Kolar to develop final applications & deliver POA.

These Minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the Government Affairs Committee of City Council. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the Government Affairs Committee of City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Chair within the minutes.

City of Montgomery
Government Affairs Committee
March 10, 2025

Staff Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

Council Committee Members Present

Chris Dobrozsi, Chair
Catherine Mills-Reynolds
Sasha Naiman

The meeting of the Government Affairs Committee of City Council convened in Council Chambers at 4:30 p.m., with Mr. Dobrozsi presiding.

Executive Session

Mr. Dobrozsi asked for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for matters related to the employment of a public official or employee.

Mrs. Mills-Reynolds made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for matters related to the employment of a public official or employee. Mrs. Naiman seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

The Committee adjourned into Executive Session at 4:35 p.m.

The Committee reconvened into Public Session at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes

Mrs. Naiman moved to approve the minutes of February 10, 2025, Government Affairs Committee meeting. Mrs. Mills-Reynolds seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Adjournment

Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there was any further business to discuss. As there was none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Naiman made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Mills-Reynolds seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Chair