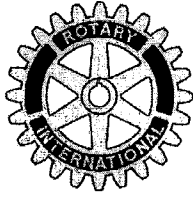


ROTARY FOUNDATION OF RACINE WEST, INC.



827 Main St.
Racine, WI 53403
(262)634-9899

RECEIVED
JAN 15 2008
Dept of Public Works

January 11, 2008

Ms. Janice Johnson-Martin
Racine City Clerk
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403

RE: Great Midwest Dragon Boat Festival Park Use and Traffic Control – Pershing Drive and Main Street (between 14th and 16th Streets) July 11th and 12th, 2008.

Dear Ms. Johnson-Martin:

The Racine West Rotary Club is again joining with the other two Rotary Clubs in Racine to plan and host the fifth annual Great Midwest Dragon Boat Festival on July 11th and 12th, 2008. Last year's event was a great success and it again attracted over 6, 000 spectators and 60+ teams. Due to the success and growth of the event over the last four years in promoting Racine and public use of our great lakeshore resources with a free public event and supporting worthwhile local programs, we are expecting continued success this year.

The purpose of this letter is to request approval from the appropriate offices within Racine City government for the event described in the caption of this letter.

The specifics about the event as we envision them at this time are:

1. On Friday, July 11th, the activities will include an evening parade and festival. The parade will proceed from near the Festival Hall public boat launch to Samuel Meyers Park. The parade will include the Dragon Boat Teams, a Chinese dance troupe and other participants. The festival would be held primarily on the grounds of Samuel Meyers Park and in one or more tents that will be erected at the park. It is our intention to again sell beer and malt-related beverages within the confines of a beer garden and various food items throughout the park. Live music will be provided.
2. On Saturday, July 12th, the activities will focus on Dragon Boat races within the protected waters south of Samuel Meyers Park. There will be food and beverages available for participating teams and spectators. In addition, we will have entertainment activities at Samuel Meyers Park, along Main Street between 14th and 16th Streets and at Carre-Hogle Park.

I. Specific facility requests being submitted for approval are:

- A) Park Use – exclusive on Friday, 7-11-08 and Saturday, 7-12-08; nonexclusive for setup and tear down/cleanup Wednesday and Thursday, 7-9-08 and 7-10-08 and Sunday and Monday 7-13-08 and 7-14-08.

Samuel Meyers (1 Eleventh Street)
Carre-Hogle
Simonsen
Pershing (portion east of Gateway Tech.,
800 Pershing Park Drive and parking)

B) Street and Parking Use and Closings

1. City owned parking lot at the south end of Pershing Park (800 Pershing Drive) from July 11, 2008 through July 12, 2008 including the parking area to the east of Pershing Drive across the street from the lot.
2. Closure of 6th Street from Lake Avenue to Pershing park Drive, Pershing Park Drive from 6th Street to 11th Street and 11th Street from Main Street to Pershing Park Drive on July 11, 2008 for a parade in the late afternoon and early evening.
3. Main Street east curb parking lane from 14th Street north to 11th Street and 11th Street south curb parking lane from Main Street to Pershing Park Drive on Saturday 7-12-08. The requested restriction of parking and parking lanes is to be used for race administration and vendor resupply vehicles, shuttling supplies, refuse, and race administration documents between Pershing Park, Simonsen, and Carre-Hogle parks.
4. Closure of Main Street from 14th Street south to 16th Street on July 12, 2008. Parking in the west lane could still be permitted but closure of the street to all traffic is believed to be necessary for safety of the spectators.

II. In addition to the street and park use approvals, the sponsoring organizations request permission to display publicity posters on or about city streets and parks, informing the public of this free scheduled event. We understand that the city may require an additional application or clean-up deposit fee for any signs placed.

Dragon Boats are manned by teams of 25 persons. They are paddled a distance of about ¼ mile. Each team races multiple times to determine finalists who then race for the event championships. Our goal is to have over 80 teams and we anticipate a number of these teams will come from outside our community as Dragon Boat Racing is a popular summer activity around the Midwest.

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We hope to launch the dragon boats using a portable dock that would be located at the far southeast corner of Samuel Meyers Park. Water level issues may again dictate alternative launch procedures from a nearby beach which can be determined only as we approach race day.

Please advise what additional steps or applications are required to obtain approval by the City of Racine and schedule this request for the required public hearings. **This request is for approvals substantially identical to those granted by the City of Racine for the 2007 event.** Please contact me if you require further information. My phone number is 262-634-9899.

Sincerely,



James H. DuRocher

JHD/nrl

Cc: Mayor Gary Becker
Robert L. Anderson, Councilman
Rick Granite, Foundation Board President
Charles A. Rice, Race Director
Jessica MacPhail, Event Chair