

Winter Walk for Warmth

The Committee finalized the details for this event.

- Hot chocolate and Wood: to be provided by the Sweaburg and District Lions
- Baked goods: to be brought by Valerie, David and Julie
- Hot chocolate mugs: to be organized by Nicole and brought by Julie
- Fire pit: to be brought by David
- Scavenger hunt: to be organized by Tabitha
- Goodie bags: to be organized by Nicole and brought by Julie

It was noted that the trail is less than 1km long.

Discussion took place regarding the Committee's budget with regard to flyer mail-outs. It was noted that the Committee would hand-deliver Winter Walk for Warmth event flyers to their local communities. The Committee will need to request increased budget funding for 2026 should they wish to distribute event flyers by mail.

SWOX "Country Market" Event – Re-scheduling and Re-naming

Changes to the Vendor List:

- Adam Dewit Milk: does he produce milk? (unknown)
- Vanhoucke Country Garden – remove Anne
- Bre's Market – remove duplicate
- Great Canadian Honey – removed

Valerie suggested re-naming this event to bring it more in-line with its intended purpose, which is to highlight vendors in South-West Oxford. David Mayberry suggested "SWOX Township Fare" to point to the wide range of available goods and services in the Township.

It was noted that the Tillsonburg and District Memorial Hospital is hosting their annual Taste of Summer Event on May 31st. Deb expressed concern that it will pull most of our intended vendors to that event, as well as the public attendance. The Committee changed the date and time of the event to May 24th from 12-3 p.m. Nicole has updated the booking calendar.

Deb questioned who will be organizing this event. Julie noted that vendors will be registering with staff who will organize the table and booth spaces. Outside table spaces will need to be marked a day or two prior with spray paint. Staff will organize waste disposal and sorting (recycling). Vendors will be encouraged to bring home their own garbage.

The Committee drafted a registration form. The following items were noted to be included:

- Disclaimer: "This event is only open to businesses with items produced or services provided in the Township of South-West Oxford. No MLMs at this time."
- Name of Business
- Business Contact Name

- Contact Email Address
- Contact Phone Number
- Business Address
- Type of Business (drop down with type from flyer)
- Specify what you are bringing/selling (related to your product/service) – please note: you can only bring the items that you have specified on this form
- Inside or Outside Space Preferred

Vendor applications will be circulated ASAP – with the deadline of March 31st. This will be extended should we not receive a satisfactory response.

This event will be advertised in the Voice for both April and May. It will be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

2024 Year in Review – Brownsville Sharing Cupboard (Deb and Catherine)

Deb Riley and Catherine White provided the following information regarding their experience operating the Sharing Cupboard in Brownsville over the past year:

- Pleased to announce that only time they touched on seed money was for purchase of armoire, retro-fitting of armoire and purchasing original stocking of goods.
- Spent \$450.64 to date.
- Self-sustainable due to generous food donations from private citizens.
- Cupboard checked twice per week, and re-stocked 2-3 or 8-10 items per visit depending on need that week.
- Deb and Catherine thanked the Brownsville Librarian for her ongoing assistance with the project.

Deb will be distributing flyers to advertise the one-year anniversary of the Sharing Cupboard to the Brownsville area. It was noted that Deb, Catherine and the librarian have received a generous number of donations. The most-needed items are items for children’s lunches, breakfast items and personal care items. The item most frequently used by residents is the “birthday cake package” with cake mix, icing, baking pans and candles. The Committee congratulated Deb and Catherine for their efforts – they will share this information with Irene Grace Bom at the next meeting in March.

David questioned how we could do this in communities that do not have a shared library space? He will ask the head librarian regarding the feasibility of a similar project at the Mount Elgin Community Centre/Library.

Correspondence

SWOX Talks and Village Voice

The Committee reviewed the monthly newsletters and Village Voice ads for December 2024 and January 2025.

