

Mac Reunion Committee Meeting

Saturday, April 13, 2019

11:30 a.m. @ Chester's @ 281/Mecca

Those in attendance:

Laverne Blaschke (Dysart), Fabian Castillo, Debbie Turner (Miller), Shellie Bowman (Liles), Larry Armstrong, Ray Ince, Steve Hart, Jennifer Sonnen (Zimmerle), Butch Gerfers (and wife Nancy), Rick Sartor, Kay Brooks (Judkins)

Butch asked if there were any questions regarding the last minutes provided online at www.mac1970.com. There were none.

The tribute to Mr. Vakey that was in the Express-News was available for our viewing in case anyone missed it.

Butch reported that Kathie Maxfield & Dolores Lasswell have offered to be taken off as signers on the Mac 1970 Reunion checking account. Rick Sartor and Jennifer Sonnen (Zimmerle) are willing to become signers on the account. Butch will get the paperwork started to get this action taken care of.

Venue research was discussed (not in any particular order):

- 1) Bracken Store & Icehouse (for Friday venue): Jennifer Sonnen (Zimmerle) reported: no fee, two food trucks (pay as you go), band or DJ supplied by owner (Ken Lawrence), serves beer & wine (pay at the bar or run a tab with a waitress) as well as set ups (BYOB), Chicken Sh*t Bingo, ample parking across the street and on the street, rustic with spool tables and cafeteria chairs under covered patio/dance floor and in grassy area (no cover), capacity of 150+ indoors and outdoors combined.
- 2) Quarry Golf Club (for Friday venue): Steve Hart presented a short analysis and opinion. He had been here before for a Class of '69 reunion and enjoyed it. However, things have changed and the venue would be \$3500+ and the club would have to supply the food and drinks. We could not bring anything in. He was not impressed and thought it was more than it was worth in the end.
- 3) Ray Ince provided details for the following (for Saturday venue):

Library Downtown: Ray said this was not a feasible location

Hotel Emma / Elephant Cellar: Room Rate \$6,000 PLUS \$50 - \$70 PP food/bar (estimate)

Stables: Room Rate \$6,500 (Saturday nights) PLUS \$50 - \$70 PP food/bar (estimate) Great selection of caterers: RK, Don Strange, etc. Large venue - up to 30 10-top tables with dance floor.

St. Anthony Hotel: \$100 PP with min. of \$11,000, Large room with balcony around it. \$70-\$85 PP food/bar (estimate)

Lonesome Dove: Room Rate \$2,500 PLUS Min \$7,500 food/bar. Total \$10,000 Very cool venue. Opens onto the Grotto. [Sahbgcc.com /facilities/](http://Sahbgcc.com/facilities/) The LDR & Grotto Catering by The RK (Rosemary Kowalski) Group.

- 4) Laverne Blaschke (Dysart) & Steve Hart visited the Petroleum club (for Saturday venue) and spoke with the rep. As before, the venue is free, the location is central and it's near the airport & hotels. Also in

the Mac area. Parking remains free. We discussed some of the survey questions and thought about heavy hors d'oeuvres with stand up tables rather than a full meal with a sit-down setting. Some attendees had felt the seating didn't encourage mingling. The club can host approx 150-200 in the main area. That would include several side rooms that open into the main dining. Serving could be broken up into several areas and include a carving station, salads, desserts, etc. There is a designated space for DJ or band (They have used several groups for entertaining, including the Cones Sisters and Models). Also, the main bar would be available but not exclusive. A pay-bar could be used and we could offer a "two ticket drink" in the admission price, as before. Also, the club would be responsible for setting up and cleaning.

- 5) Tejas Rodeo information obtained via email/internet by Pam Sholund (Bearor) and presented to the committee by Jennifer Sonnen (Zimmerle). Venue space rentals (\$500), Rodeo activities: Roping (\$500), Mechanical bull (\$1040), Photo bull (\$195), Calf scramble (\$500), Games such as cornhole or horseshoes (\$150 each set), activities subject to tax and 20% service fee. Live music (\$2000), cash bar (guests purchase their own drinks at the pavilion bar and there would be a bartender fee of \$125 per server (1 server per 100 guests). Seemed to be an expensive venue for either the Friday night OR the Saturday night.
- 6) Vogt Park (for Friday venue): Larry Armstrong presented details of rental for residents of Hollywood Park (Rick Sartor is a resident)....4 hours \$250 plus \$50 per hour after initial 4 hours, all day rental \$400 plus \$50 after midnight per hour, cleaning fee \$170, refundable deposit of \$250, audio visual \$75 (refundable deposit \$100). Hollywood Park off-duty policemen would have to be hired (typically about \$30 per hour each)
- 7) Laverne Blaschke (Dysart) reported that both the Witte and Sky Room at IWU would not be feasible venues for the Saturday night function. Laverne said she had been to two events at the Witte since our last meeting and is friends with the catering group. The catering group concur that it is too large and expensive for a group of our size and type. The Sky Room is equally large and expensive plus parking is complicated.

Intermittent talk and discussion of pros and cons of each venue presented led to an elimination of most of the 'expensive' Saturday night venues, an initial vote for a preference to the Saturday night venue was thrown out to the group. It was unanimous each of the 12 present thought the Petroleum Club was the best option....with the understanding it would be more spacious/less cramped due to the remodeling, opening up of more room, and possibly having food stations instead of a buffet. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. With that, Steve Hart will make a reservation for Saturday, May 30, 2020 for 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

No decision for a Friday night venue was made. It was decided that Shellie Bowman (Liles) and Jennifer Sonnen (Zimmerle) would visit the Fort Sam Golf Club as a possibility. Ray Ince will check out BigZ. Jennifer & Shellie will also attend an event at Bracken Store & Icehouse as well as speak with Ken Lawrence about a solution to the restroom accessibility for a large crowd. Others on the committee will think about other possible venues and obtain information on these venues between now and the next meeting set for Saturday, May 11, 2019 @ Chester's in Hollywood Park starting at 11:30 a.m.