



MEMO

Date: 10-30-09

To: Citizens of Amelia Village

From: Mayor Leroy Ellington

Subject: "WHY WAS THE AMELIA HOLIDAY PARADE CANCELLED?"

The "Amelia Holiday Parade" was cancelled based on the following...

- Pierce Township is raising questions as to whether or not they can or will be involved with the parade in any way, and they believe that they do not have the authority to close the road East of Cleveland Avenue, and have in fact ***asked that the parade be restricted to the Villages borders.***
- Amelia Baptist Church contacted the parade committee and indicated that because the parade has been re-named a "Holiday Parade". They will not allow their property to be used for the parade at all.
- Myself, and members of the Parade Committee have received several phone calls and e-mails indicating that the parade would be boycotted, and some indicating that they would not participate.
- ***Logistically speaking, the parade cannot proceed without the use of Amelia Baptist Church's property, and...the parade cannot proceed without extending outside of Village boundaries.***
- Combine these issues with the fact that it looks as though this is going to become a negative Public Relations issue for the Village. It is clear that it only makes sense to withdraw our well intended effort to keep this long standing tradition.

For what it's worth, there is a gentleman trying to get the funding and support needed have a Christmas Parade... and Amelia Village is in support of that effort and will do whatever we can to assist.

However...without the use of Amelia Baptist Church parking lot, and without the ability for the parade to extend outside of Village boundaries, it still may be logistically impossible.

Sincerely,
Leroy Ellington, Mayor