

Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee  
Minutes of July 18, 2013 Meeting

**Present:** Steve Coswell, Co-Chair; Pat Frederick, Secretary; Patty Johnson, Treasurer; Members: Susan Brennan, George Cornwall, Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson, and Bob Fichtel.

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The secretary's report was accepted as written. Patty read her Treasurer's report, which was also accepted.

The committee decided *not* to accept payment by credit card, for merchandise such as the banners and the Schoolboy statuettes, due to processing charges for such transactions.

Anyone wishing to purchase a banner should be referred to Bob, who can e-mail them a map showing locations of available poles. He will ask people for first, second and third choices of location, in case the first-choice spot is already taken.

Banners will be displayed from June, 2014 through the end of the anniversary year, 2015. Possibly, the town may wish to display Christmas banners on the poles during the holiday seasons. If so, the Celebration banners would be re-displayed after the holidays.

Comments on Downtown Day were positive; the booth served well.

**Blueberry Breakfast**

The committee needs to generate some media coverage of the approaching Blueberry Breakfast. The committee's own FaceBook page is administered by Katelyn Spurr, and "Parks & Rec." also has a FaceBook page. These should be used for publicity, along with Steve Wendell's program on WGAW AM Radio, Gardner. Steve encourages people to describe upcoming community events, on his program. He will take announcements by phone. We must be sure to state that the blueberries for the breakfast are from Odd Pine Farm, Ashburnham.

Barbara has gathered some donated items for the basket to be raffled at the Breakfast, and is seeking more. She has also ordered two generic "Blueberry Breakfast" signs that can be used again next year, from Lorraine DeSousa. The words, "This Sunday" can be added to the signs during the days just before the Breakfast.

Barbara has determined that the best way to serve the breakfast is to have servers at a serving table place portions on attendees' plates, rather than have "waitstaff" taking food to seated persons at tables. Last year, some people didn't stay at one table, but moved to another to sit with friends, complicating serving for waitstaff who were unsure of who had been served. Having everyone served cafeteria style should work better. There will also be runners, going to the kitchen to refill empty serving containers. Barbara already has

what appears to be an adequate number of volunteers for these jobs. Workers should be there by 7:30 AM.

Besides blueberry baked goods for take-home sale, there will be Schoolboy statuettes. Steve's Plantscape Services is donating a blueberry bush.

Tickets to the Breakfast were distributed to committee members to sell, at \$7.00 per person, kids under four years old, \$3.00.

**New Business**

Steve is getting started on a program about the history of Ashburnham. He has been in contact with Bob McGowan. The Bicentennial video will be put on disc. More about this at next month's meeting.

We should be planning an event for Fall, possibly Columbus Day weekend?

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Bob made a motion to adjourn; Steve seconded it, and the other members approved by saying "Aye". Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia H. Frederick*

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