

Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee
Minutes of October 17, 2013 Meeting

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

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

The Secretary's report for September 19th was accepted as written. Patty handed out copies of her Treasurer's report, which was also accepted as written.

Bob reported on the number of Schoolboy statuettes remaining in inventory, both in his care and at Creative Connections.

The committee discussed best ways of publicizing the utility pole banners, about 50 of which have been sold, including those for poles between Lawrence and Chapel streets, and down to River Street. Sponsors may keep their banners after the Anniversary year.

The committee decided major categories of sponsorship should be named as follows: Platinum, \$5,000, Gold, \$3,500, Silver, \$2,500, each with extra benefits such as reserved parking privileges near the fireworks viewing area; a certain number of free tickets to the fireworks show and other events; newspaper coverage of gift presentation; a framed wall plaque expressing appreciation; a banner to be carried in the parade, announcing sponsorship of the next division consisting of a school band, floats, marching units, etc; and the privilege of firing the cannon (under supervision). There will be a printed program leaflet, listing sponsors of the parade and fireworks show.

The committee made a list of possible major sponsors to be canvassed in person by Steve. Barbara will draft a letter, the format of which Bob will design, appealing for funds from prospective business sponsors. Tyna will hand-address the envelopes, since recipients are more likely to give consideration to a personalized letter.

The committee decided that combining the Meat Raffle with a service auction would involve more time and effort than is practical right now; we will still consider having a service auction at a later date. Barbara will attend to advertising and Patty will research meat purchase details. We plan to have live music.

We need a special Parade Subcommittee. Each of us should come to the November 21st meeting with the name of one person interested in serving on such a subcommittee, and with suggestions of specific details to be addressed by subcommittee volunteers. On December 5th, the committee will meet with subcommittee volunteers and offer them various ways in which they can help plan and prepare for the parade.

The committee discussed possible slogans for the theme of the parade. This is another detail to be addressed at the November 21st meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM. The next meeting will be on November 21st.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary