

Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee
Minutes of March 21, 2013 Meeting

Present: Steve Coswell and George Cornwall, Co-Chairs; Pat Frederick, Secretary; Patty Johnson, Treasurer; **Members:** Susan Brennan, Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson, Bob Fichtel, Karen Mattus and Linc Stiles. **Guest:** Jane Peters of AWCATV

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:07

Patty Johnson gave her Treasurer's report; George moved to accept, seconded by Bob. Accepted as given.

Pat had e-mailed everyone her February Secretary's report soon after that meeting. Accepted.

Steve reported that Cushing Academy had turned up "a pile " of unsold anniversary magnets. The school plans to purchase enough of them to use on school vehicles, returning any remaining magnets to the committee.

Jane Peters, from Ashburnham Westminster Cable Access TV, outlined the resources available to town organizations: AWCATV can display pictures, public service announcements, and bulletin board announcements of upcoming events; and while they cannot include direct advertising, they can include links to organizations' websites where ticket sales information, for example, is given. AWCATV also offers training in the use of video equipment; a representative of an organization can be trained in the use of equipment, which he can then borrow to cover events by the organization.

Bob gave an update on the Schoolboy Statuettes: he showed the model from which castings will be made, and two finished samples. One sample is hand-painted in full color, signed by the artist; the other is in bronze tone. The committee members examined both finished items and discussed cost, pricing, and profit, taking into consideration the cost of making the mold, and the extra time and skill involved in the hand-painting. George's motion, to ask \$50.00 for the full-color figure, was approved, as was Barbara's motion to price the bronze figure at \$35.00. Any statuettes remaining unsold by the end of 2015 will be purchased by the Historical Society. The manufacturer can sell the statuettes to us in lots as small as one dozen. The committee plans to have some statuettes available for sale at the committee's booth on Downtown Day.

Bob handed out his sample design for the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant billing insert for May. The committee is sharing the insert with the Ashburnham Historical Society, whose announcements will be on the other side of the page. The committee discussed wording of the insert, and minor changes were agreed upon. The design and its wording were then formally accepted.

Steve moved that the committee agree to the Ashburnham Business Council having responsibility for the Downtown Day Trolley Tours this year and next year; The committee will take responsibility for the tours in 2015. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Fun and Games activity of an August, 2013 badminton tournament was discussed. Michelle (Collette) Giannino and Theresa (Foley) Leary are interested in organizing the tournament, which would be held at Landry Memorial Field on Williams Road. The committee would be responsible for the marking of the courts, supplying nets and birdies; players would bring their own racquets, registering to play at \$3.00 per individual, or \$10.00 per family. Siblings, spouses and other close relatives would be assigned to different teams, the idea being to help people meet new friends. The games would be divided into youth and adult teams, playing by double elimination. We will invite Royalston to send teams, since their town's 250th anniversary is the same year as ours. We need a subcommittee to work on the tournament.

Bob will contact Bob Young about organizing a firemen's muster.

On the topic of our September, 2015 parade: Westminster's anniversary parade expenses of \$30,000.00 appear to be a fair example of what such parades routinely cost. Steve has the financial notes from Westminster, as a guideline of the many considerations in organizing the event, from porta-potties, to parking for marching band buses, to reviewing stand, to food vendors, floats, and more. We need to meet with Police, Fire, and Parks & Recreation departments, to establish their roles in planning and conducting the parade. It was pointed out that the route we decide on will dictate much of the necessary planning.

Cushing will soon have a new headmaster. Steve will need to meet with him to outline our celebration plans and learn the headmaster's thoughts on the extent and nature of Cushing's participation, especially since the academy is celebrating its own 150th anniversary in 2015.

George has information from two fireworks companies, Atlas and Telstar. While both are equally qualified, he tends to favor Atlas, since the company has a store just across the state line in Rindge, NH. We will plan on a half-hour display, costing between \$10,000 and \$20,000, depending on the scope of the show we decide on.

Katelyn Spurr will be administering our Web postings; Patty is our FaceBook administrator.

Bob moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM; so moved and voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary

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TOWN OFFICE

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