

**Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee**  
**Minutes of January 6, 2015 Meeting**

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

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

Patty gave her Treasurer's report, reading aloud the amount budgeted for each planned event for the year. Each event has a dedicated page in her notebook, making accounting perfectly clear. The committee commented on any budget amount that seemed low for the event.

**Christmas Tree Bonfire and Skating Party, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

Patty reported that the Fitchburg Sportsmen's Club will be selling hot chocolate, coffee, tea and chowder to attendees at the Christmas Tree Bonfire and Skating Party. The Club has specified where the bonfire will take place; Google earth aerial view of the location were distributed to, and approved by, the committee.

Steve reported on his schedule for delivery of pallets, wreaths and trees to the bonfire location. The sound system can be set up between 2:30 and 3:00, the day of the bonfire.

George said his online postings, advertising the event under several Facebook categories, have been receiving enough hits to suggest that the event will be well-attended. George has also contacted school administrators about the event, and arranged for it to be listed on the local calendar of events in The Gardner News. Steve will attend to yard signs and posters, as approved in the budget.

The ice should be excellent for skating. The skating area will be plowed right after the next snow. Steve will see to the plowing.

**250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Meredith Fagan is all set to supply the cakes and cookies. Tyna will be mailing invitations as the date approaches.

Steve announced there will be a raffle for a 100-year-old pitcher, on which is an image of Cushing's main building. This was donated by Deedee Cleveland and Jules Ranka.

The North Country Youth String Orchestra will provide instrumental music while people are gathering, and again, after the Opening Remarks, when people can be actively listening. The Ashburnham Children's Choir is inviting students from Briggs School to join for rehearsals starting January 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 at Ashburnham Community Church.

A trivia contest on distinguished citizens of Ashburnham will be held in the lobby at Intermission, and there will be tables for the sale of Schoolboy statuettes and other 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration items.

### **Parks and Recreation Committee's Easter Egg Hunt**

The committee discussed how many Schoolboy statuettes, if any, should be made available as prizes for winners of the Easter Egg Hunt. It was pointed out that children, especially the younger ones, would probably prefer different sorts of prizes. Barb made a motion that the committee vote on the matter. It was decided to donate one statuette, at cost.

### **April 12<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Church Service \***

The service will take place at a location to be decided. Pat Frederick will be arranging details with the Ashburnham Ecumenical Committee Chair, Joan Webber, in consultation with the pastors of the town's churches.

### **Picnic in the Park, May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Eula Buckwalter has donated a crocheted afghan in purple and white (Cushing Academy colors) to be raffled for the benefit of the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration events. It was decided to hold this raffle at the Mother's Day event.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

The next meeting of the committee will be on **Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM**, (note special time!) as a joint meeting with the Ashburnham Business Council's Joe McPeak, Brenda Bujnevicie, Ron Newman, and Beth Wojnas. Members of the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and Community Center will also be invited to the meeting, the subject of which will be various groups' roles and responsibilities for Ashburnham Community Day, June 27<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be in the meeting room in the basement of Town Hall.

There will be an extra meeting of the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee on **Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM** in the meeting room, Town Hall Basement, especially dedicated to Parade planning, since Susie Brennan was ill and could not make tonight's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Patricia H. Frederick*  
Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary

\* In the Days after the meeting, Pat spoke with Ashburnham Ecumenical Committee Chair Joan Webber. They agreed the service should be at the Ashburnham Community Church, because of the building's historical importance. Realizing there would be a parking problem if the April service were held in the evening, when AA meets in the church's Fellowship Hall, they decided to change the time to **3:00PM**, which worked well for the Ecumenical Ceremony of Christmas Lessons and Carols last month. Please note the change in time, which will need to be changed on any Facebook or other calendar announcements.