

Ashburnham Community Day and Fireworks, June 27, 2015
Joint Meeting of the Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee, the
Ashburnham Business Council, and the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and
Community Center Committee, January 20, 2015

Present

250th Committee: Steve Coswell, Chairman, Pat Frederick, Secretary, Patty Johnson, Treasurer; Members: Susie Brennan, Barbara DiVito, Bob Fichtel.

Bresnahan Center: Brenda Brown and Val Daigle

Business Council: Brenda Bujnevicié, Ron Newman, Liz Penney, Beth Wojnas

Ashburnham Community Day Plans

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM, and distributed a draft outline of Community Day activities to all present. He read aloud the items on the outline, calling for comments or discussion on each. He also displayed a rough map of the Oakmont Regional High School property, indicating where the various events of the day and evening might take place. Barbara suggested that the area for people to sit and rest, or eat, be located closer to the musical performance stage area, for better listening. A tent, to provide shelter from sun or rain, will be provided by the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant.

Pat asked about shuttle accommodations for those with mobility problems. OOMPA (Oakmont Overlook Music Parents Association) has a golf cart; we can ask band director Kris DeMoura or a band parent about using it for Community Day.

The Ashburnham Business Council (ABC) anticipates about 45 vendors, whose locations around the grounds ABC will coordinate, as they have done in past years' Downtown Days. ABC needs to find out which vendors' booths require access to electric power.

Ron Newman stated there may be as many as 100 cars at the automobile show.

Patty pointed out the need for reserved parking for the handicapped.

Maybe traffic should be routed one-way, entering from South Maple Ave. and leaving by Oakmont's driveway. we should have a police officer directing traffic. Admission to the fireworks show will be \$5.00 per car.

During the day, food will be provided for sale by the Bresnahan Center. The Lions Club's Chicken Barbecue will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. We need to ask if the Oakmont Boosters Club wants to provide snacks in the evening, until time for the fireworks show. Ron will distribute numbered Barbecue tickets to members of all the committees involved, to be sold in advance so the Lions Club knows how many meals to provide. Un-purchased tickets must be returned to Ron, to give an accurate tally.

Inflatable "bouncy houses" are available from [FunStuf Rentals](#) on route 2A at the Fitchburg/Lunenburg border. We will ask if Oakmont Honor Society members can supervise use of the bouncy houses, as they have done at Downtown Day in the past.

Sallie Thoma is attending to getting the MART Trolley again, with Chris Gagnon narrating tours of South Ashburnham.

Beth will speak to Gretchen Lafferty about the farm animal petting zoo.

We hope to have a vendor who does artistic face painting, and another who makes balloon figures of animals and such, as further amusements for the children.

Spuria's South Ash Trash service will provide two dumpsters for waste disposal. Ron will ask Bob Martikainen if he can provide trash cans, as he has done for Downtown Day. The Bresnahan Center group will provide designated containers for recyclable cans and bottles; signage will be needed for these.

We will need six porta-potties, although Oakmont will allow access to restrooms. Val pointed out that the porta-potties will need to be emptied at 4:00 pm, in order to be ready for the people who come for the fireworks show.

People can be seated on the bleachers; and while they can sit on the football field's artificial turf while watching the fireworks, food and drink will be strictly prohibited there.

Because Ashburnham Community Day is an official Town function, it will be covered by the Town's liability insurance policy.

Val recommended having a printed brochure including a map showing where different activities, displays and services would be located, as well as giving the schedule of events during the day and evening.

Cars with Handicapped ID tag will be parked at Overlook, where people can watch the fireworks without leaving their cars.

Other Business

250th Celebration events:

Sunday, April 12th will be the Ecumenical Church Service at the Community Church at 3:00.

Sunday, May 17th will be the Mother's Day Concert at Winchester Park gazebo.

July 18th will be the Tour of Historic Homes and Lovely Gardens.

Parade registration forms are available on Facebook.

Ron announced the Lions Club's 50th Anniversary celebration will take place Saturday evening, May 30 at 8:00. The theme will be "The Roaring Twenties", and activities will include a "casino" area, although players will not be playing for money.

The Bresnahan Center will present a second annual Salute to the Troops at the end of April, at Oakmont, with the Veterans' Chorus and other music.

ABC will meet next on Tuesday, February 24th at 5:30.

The next joint meeting of all three groups will be Tuesday, March 3rd at 5:30 in the basement meeting room, Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary

The 250th Celebration Committee