

Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee March 3, 2015

Present:

Steve Coswell and George Cornwall, Co-Chairmen, Pat Frederick, Secretary, Patty Johnson, Treasurer; Members: Susie Brennan, Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson, Bob Fichtel and Karen Mattus. Guest, Matt Bourgault from AWCATV.

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:45PM.

The Secretary's report for February 17th was accepted as written.

The Treasurer's report was given, showing that the Committee's funds to date are in sound shape.

Two Time Capsules will be opened on June 1st. Town Counsel Phillips should be consulted, concerning legal ownership of the contents of the capsules after their opening.

Birthday Celebration Plans

Due to the celebration's postponement from February 22nd to March 8th, the North Country Youth String Orchestra will be unavailable to play. Instead, we will have music by the Oakmont Tuba Quartet.

Matt spoke to the committee about the video by Betsy Dillbeck, which he has helped her to edit. Instead of showing an hour-long video in two installments, with an intermission between, it was decided to edit the video down to forty-seven minutes, highlighting important features of the Town's history from incorporation to the present, and to show it without a break.

Steve read aloud the Celebration program, scheduled for 1:00 -3:00 this Sunday, March 8th:

Displays in the lobby, before and after the program:

Briggs students' artwork and essays on "What Ashburnham Means to Me" and "Ashburnham, Past, Present and Future", along the corridor walls leading to the auditorium.

250th Celebration items for sale: Car magnets, Schoolboy statuettes, baseball caps

Table displays by town organizations: Brothers of the Brush, the Ashburnham Historical Society and the Stevens Memorial Library

Dottie Munroe will have an easel and card table for people to sign up for her "Paint the Town" art show.

A continuous looping video of Ashburnham's 200th Anniversary Parade, 1965.

Opening congratulatory remarks and presentation of State Proclamation by Senator Anne Gobi and Representative Jon Zlotnik

250th Celebration Youth Chorus sings

Ashburnham History video

Oakmont Tuba Quartet plays

Raffle drawing for antique pitcher

Birthday cake for all, in cafeteria

Bob will post our banner over the front door at Oakmont, where people will enter.

George has posted publicity for the Celebration on several Facebook pages.

Parade Plans

Miss Massachusetts' fee for taking part in the Parade is \$300., + \$50. registration & travel.

We will need VIP passes for especially generous donors, and government officials.

Matt Bourgault said AWCATV will cover the parade, rain or shine, for live broadcast, with up to four camera positions. There will be a cherry-picker at the Public Safety Building, for high-view footage. The building has the electrical connection the crew will need. AWCATV will need commentators, some script, and a program listing the order of participants, so bands, floats, etc. can be named accurately as they pass. Each participating unit should be assigned a number.

Other Business

Christine Caruso and her daughter, of Elaine's Fine Sewing have volunteered to make period costumes for 250th Celebration events.

Steve announced the Family Skate event at Cushing Academy's Iorio Arena on Sunday, March 15, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. The event is free. Cushing will be selling refreshments, and will provide helmets, and steadying devices for unsure skaters to hold onto.

The Parks and Recreation Committee East Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 28, and may be held indoors if the weather is bad.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 in Town Hall's basement Meeting Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary