

## **Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee, April 14, 2015**

### **Present:**

Steve Coswell and George Cornwall, Co-Chairmen, Pat Frederick, Secretary; Members: Susie Brennan, Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson, Bob Fichtel, Karen Mattus and Linda Ramsdell.

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

The Secretary's report had been sent to all members, but was inadvertently overlooked.

Steve read aloud the Treasurer's report, since she was unable to attend the meeting.

### **May event:**

The 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration event for May, the Picnic in the Park (also referred to as "Music on the Green"), is scheduled for Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. The rain date is May 24<sup>th</sup>. George is doing publicity, both online and in print media. Barb will put up posters around town, and supply a blurb to the Superintendent of Schools for distribution to parents via school newsletters. Barb has arranged for musical entertainment by Jane Miller and her band. We need to be sure of a clean porta-potty and trash cans at the park, for the event.

### **Time Capsule Opening:**

Bob will order fifty more Schoolboy statuettes. Tyna will need a welcome table. The Lions Club will not be providing a breakfast, but members will be on hand to help with setup and other logistics. Tyna and George have created a program leaflet for the event. They distributed proof copies to the members for proofreading. George showed the proof copy of a design for the commemorative coin, which can be produced by a long-established Massachusetts company, or by a company in California. Samples from each company will be considered, with their price quotes and descriptions of materials. The coins are to be cast in bronze and either painted with bronze paint or silvered, to prevent the underlying bronze from becoming tarnished. The minimum order is 100.

Both Century boxes in the care of the Town were given by Louis Eisenlohr. Eisenlohr's original instructions were that the discs commemorating the Battleship Maine (cast from salvaged material from the ship) were to be given to the governors of all the then forty-eight states. Plaques on the boxes say the boxes were left "in the custody" of the Town. Twenty-five descendants of the Eisenlohr family are planning to attend the opening of the boxes; they will be traveling from Nebraska in a caravan of campers, camping at Cushing Academy. The Eisenlohr family would like to own the boxes after the grand opening. Since Town Counsel has written a determination that the boxes belong to the Town, there was some discussion about the eventual disposition of the boxes, perhaps one remaining with the Town and the other going to the family. Steve's letter to the Headmaster at Cushing probably arrived today.

George is asking for Junior ROTC members from Monty Tech to assist with crowd logistics at the Time Capsule opening, at Community Day, and at the Parade. This is good, as long as they do not presume to take responsibility for duties properly assigned to the Police, as described in the Police Department's contract.

### **Other Business:**

Barb has arranged for "Silly Sally", a clown act involving three clowns for three hours, with balloons, for Community day. She has also engaged a unicycle rider for the parade.

Steve and George reported on the Ecumenical Church Service, the Celebration event for April. Pat reported that forty-one persons attended the service.

The committee will meet jointly with the Ashburnham Business Council at 5:30 PM on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

The next meeting of the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee will be April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the basement meeting room at Town Hall, with a focus on Parade plans. We will be seeking advice from Cindy Darcy on hosting a float-building workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia H. Frederick*

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary