

Ashburnham Community Day and Fireworks, June 27, 2015
Joint Meeting of the Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee, Ashburnham
Business Council, and the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and Community
Center Committee, April 21, 2015

Present

250th Celebration Committee: Steve Coswell and George Cornwall, Co-Chairmen, Pat Frederick, Secretary; Members Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson and Bob Fichtel.

Business Council: Liz Penney, Gardner Chamber of Commerce; Joseph McPeak, Ron Newman, and Beth Wojnas.

Bresnahan Center: Brenda Brown, Valorie Daigle and Roger Hoyt.

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:30.

Steve reported on financial matters: He is looking into costs for insurance, and for hiring the three Oakmont custodians the school is requiring to be present during the day. The total budget for the day is \$26,000.

Liz said we need to find out if Westminster requires all vendors to be licensed, since Oakmont is on Westminster property. Licenses have never been required for vendors at Downtown Day in Ashburnham. Vendors of food will need permits.

Monty Tech students will set up a transformer for electrical power, late in May.

Transportation is one detail needing attention: people who park at Briggs School will need to be shuttled to and from Oakmont. Cushing's buses will be otherwise occupied that day. George will ask Wilson Bus Lines what they may be willing to provide. MART may have something. There will be an all-terrain vehicle, a utility cart and a couple of golf carts for shuttling vendors from the parking lot by the school, down to the area where they will be setting up their displays.

Posters, 2' by 2', have been ordered for the Picnic in the Park, and Community day, at a cost of \$15.00 each.

The Business Council will pay for printed programs of the day's events and activities.

George is doing publicity online, on radio, and in the print media.

Steve will remind Jake Lyman to update the over-the-street banners with the next months' Celebration events.

Some vendors may wish to leave at 4:00; however, they will have the option of staying through the evening.

The Sports Boosters Club is enthusiastic about providing food for sale, from 6:00 PM through the evening: Hot dogs, hamburgers, sausages, snacks and drinks.

Charlie Packard, of the Water Board, has arranged with Oakmont to let the firemen's muster use the hydrant on school grounds.

We would be pleased to have two dozen Junior ROTC members from Monty Tech, to help with logistics that are not part of police jurisdiction. We should have four police officers present all day, for traffic control.

Fireworks spectators do not need to be on the Oakmont campus at all; people can watch from Spuria's, and from other locations in town. We need to publicize this fact.

Val suggested we get extra lighting for people walking along Williams Road after the fireworks show, going to their cars. Barb said it might be a good if the police can make Williams Road one-way after the fireworks show; cars going back toward Ashburnham could be directed via Platts Road.

Brenda is looking into finding an ice cream vendor as a fundraiser for the Bresnahan Center. The Center will have an hydration center where people can get water, lemonade and soda.

Steve has obtained the contact information for the man in California who does float-building workshops. He will be writing to him soon.

On Friday, May 15th, the Bresnahan Center is having a fundraising concert at Oakmont. They would like volunteers to guide first-time visitors through the building to the auditorium.

Ron distributed tickets to the Lions Club Annual Chicken Barbecue at the Community Day; each member was asked to sell ten, and bring the money to Ron.

Matters requiring more attention are shuttle transportation, porta-potties, trash disposal and electric power.

Next meetings of the 250th Celebration Committee will be Tuesday, April 28 and Wednesday, May 6th. We need to have the Public Safety officer of the Police Department and the ROTC officer from Monty Tech meet with us to determine which duties are assumed by police, and which, by the ROTC students. There will be another tri-group meeting on May 26th at 5:30. Meetings will take place at Town Hall, either in the basement meeting room, or in another room, to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary