

**Ashburnham Community Day and Fireworks, June 27, 2015**  
**Joint Meeting of the Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee, Ashburnham**  
**Business Council, and the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and Community**  
**Center Committee, May 19, 2015**

**Present**

**250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee:** Steve Coswell, Co-Chairman, Pat Frederick, Secretary  
**Business Council:** Liz Penney, Gardner Chamber of Commerce; Beth Wojnas, Chair; Brenda Buckley, Donna D'Apolito, Joseph McPeak, Rosemarie Meissner, and Ron Newman.  
**Bresnahan Center:** Valorie Daigle

Beth called the meeting to order at 5:35.

Attendees who had not already done so were invited to fill out the Stevens Memorial Library questionnaire, gathering public opinion on broadening the library's service to the community.

Comments on the April 7<sup>th</sup> Networking Session, hosted by Cushing Academy, were all positive; members found the presentations interesting and helpful, and the food, excellent.

**Plans for Community Day**

Ron reported that the Fitchburg Sportsmen's Club would like a table. Because the Club is a non-profit organization in Ashburnham, this was approved.

The Ashburnham Business Council will contribute \$500. toward the event's expense account, administered by the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee.

Extra electrical service has already been installed at the Oakmont field. There will be no problem supplying power to all displays and attractions that need it. The only foreseen problem may be to keep extension cords secured, to avoid their tripping people.

Steve reported that we will have a flatbed truck, nine by forty feet, to use as a stage for the bands. We need to provide some kind of shelter for electronic equipment and band instruments in the event of rain. Val said the Scouts have a small tent that can be used. Scout leader Dave Stone is the contact person for this.

Steve showed Ron the aerial photo of the Oakmont campus, with an area designated for the automobile show. here is room there for 54 cars. Ron has sent a notice about the day to automobile enthusiasts across the state. He said there might be over one hundred cars showing up during the day. This could present problems, accommodating them all.

Ron stated that the Lions Club Mobile Sight Van will be on hand to conduct free vision screening.

Val said the Bresnahan Scouting and Community Center food booth will share some facilities with the Lions Club, such as chairs and tables in the large food tent. Both organizations are ServeSafe<sup>®</sup> certified for preparing and serving food in public.

There will be three or four Ashburnham Police officers on duty during the day, and perhaps one from Westminster, in shifts. The fireworks company mandates the presence of a fire engine and firefighters from the time the fireworks are unloaded at the site, until after their display. EMTs will also be present.

The Business Council, in charge of the vendors, needs to let everyone know that parking is limited; only one car per vendor can be accommodated. Shuttle vehicles will carry vendors to and from their places on the field.

Steve read aloud the full schedule for the event, from setup the day before, through the end of the fireworks show. He will e-mail the schedule to members of the committees.

Donna said the Brothers of the Brush event will *not* take place on Community Day. One of the important participants will be out of town that day.

Beth said there are some signs available from previous years' Downtown Days.

The Bresnahan Center will supply recycling barrels, and set up a hydration station convenient to the vendors. The Center also has some glow sticks left from a previous occasion. We can buy a thousand glow sticks for \$47.00, to sell at the fireworks show.

Ron will see to the distribution of trash barrels, and obtain the non-standard size plastic liner bags.

Portable toilets should be grouped together for efficient servicing. The high school will be open for people to use indoor restroom facilities.

Steve has arranged for two minibuses from the Council on Aging, to ferry people to and from parking areas at Briggs School and the Boston Tea Party Shop, due to the limited parking at Oakmont.

Beth said there need to be announcements of Community Day at the schools. Pat will write and send her a script for morning announcements on school speaker systems.

Steve and Pat had to leave the meeting at 6:30, to attend the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia H. Frederick*

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary  
250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee