

## **Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee Meeting, September 22, 2015**

### **Present:**

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

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM.

The secretary's minutes for the special September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting were accepted as written.

### **Parade**

Cushing's Iorio Arena will be open for restroom use. Town Hall's restrooms will also be available. Custodian Ed Schlott will be at Town Hall to monitor persons entering the building. Briggs School Principal McGrath will have the restrooms there available as well. Locations for the porta-potties were identified and approved: Four Winds Drive and Old Nims Road.

Steve Nims will pick up and deliver the bleachers for the Reviewing Stand.

Laurie asked where and when the American Legion's decorated pickup truck should report. They should be at Old Nims Road at 11:30. She was given the magnetic sign for the truck.

Jean's Country Curl, South Ashburnham, is entering a decorated pickup truck in the parade.

Nancy Bonanno is concerned about early arrival time involving a long wait for her young dancers. Twenty-five to thirty pupils will perform dance routines along the parade route.

The Saint Denis/Saint Anne's float was taken out on a trial run today. Twenty-five to thirty walkers from the joint congregation will accompany the float.

Senator Brewer has withdrawn from the parade to spend time with his daughter.

There will be no motorcycle group.

Tyna is willing to loan Barb her moped, which is licensed to be driven on the street, for shuttle service.

Linda and Barb will pick up small bottles of drinking water. Barb will buy candy for the clowns to hand out along the route.

The American Legion's Color Guard and marchers will be in Division I. Their jeep and troop transport riders will be in Division IV.

Ashburnham Fire Chief Paul Rekos called Linda to report there will be a contingent of fire engines from other towns to lead the parade. They should report to Briggs School by noon.

George is arranging for Brandon Funeral Home's antique hearse to be drawn by two horses.

We will be sending Sgt. Jornet a list of locations where Monty Tech's JROTC assistants will be stationed: VIP Parking behind Town Hall, Reviewing Stand, crosswalks, Landry Field, Briggs School, Post Office, Public Safety Building, and Highway Department Barn. The JROTC members by the reviewing stand can save the parking spot for the Grand Marshals' car.

Salvador Auto Group in Gardner is providing a 1952 Army jeep and a 1966 M105 Howitzer last used in Desert Storm.

Patty has been reviewing biographical sketches of participants. She will use a large type font when printing them out, to facilitate M.C. Dave Uminski's reading.

Royalston may bring their ladder truck. They will have a pickup truck pulling their float.

The committee discussed hiring a professional photographer to cover the parade. Members of the committee not otherwise fully occupied should take photos with their cell phones.

Members of the committee will post signs by Sunday morning, indicating locations of porta-potties, VIP and Handicapped parking places, Parking and No Parking areas.

The Sentinel will carry a small ad for the parade on Thursday.

The committee will gather at Town Hall's basement meeting room on Saturday at 3:00 PM to pick up signs, go to Gardner to fetch vehicles from Salvador, or go to the church to set up luncheon tables for the Navy Band.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia H. Frederick*

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary