

## **Ashburnham 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee Meeting, November 3, 2015**

### **Present:**

Steve Coswell, Chairman; Pat Frederick, Secretary; Patty Johnson, Treasurer; Members: Susie Brennan, Barbara DiVito, Tyna Donelson, Bob Fichtel and Karen Mattus.

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

The secretary's minutes for the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as written.

Patty has received all but a very few of the invoices she needs to pay Celebration event participants who were not volunteers.

The committee looked at Sylvia Turcotte's pages of color photos of the Parade; great coverage!

### **New Century Time Capsule**

Several suggestions were made concerning the creation of a new time capsule to be opened in the year 2115. One possibility would be to reuse an old time capsule, even using the plaque which was mounted on it, turning the plaque over and inscribing the other side, and placing a note in the capsule, calling attention to the older inscription.

The membership felt it would be best to keep the same committee members, rather than recruiting a whole new committee to plan the time capsule. Meetings can be once a month, since the time capsule target date will be in May or June, possibly Downtown Day, if there is such an observance in 2016.

Having already discussed some ideas for contents of the capsule at the last meeting, including a Schoolboy statuette and a bronze medallion, committee members suggested a letter to the people of Ashburnham in 2115; photos of the town as it looks now; some children's artwork; examples of our currency and postage stamps (will a "Forever" stamp truly still be good?); and perhaps a dummy credit card, which Patty says she can obtain at the bank where she works. The committee can ask the Selectmen, other Town boards, and Cushing for suggestions, and maybe place suggestion boxes in public places like the library and the Post Office. The committee can draft a letter to the Town, calling attention to the time capsule plans and requesting input.

### **Other Business**

The large, over-street banners are being taken down by the end of this week. The light pole banners, to be removed next week, will be taken to the Light Plant, where their sponsors can claim them.

We have plenty of water bottles left for the Contra Dance this Saturday. Patty volunteered to pick up cider, cookies and brownies. We still have some 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary hats, magnets and such, that can be taken to the dance, to see if anyone will want to buy them.

The committee has taken advantage of the Ashburnham Community Church's fellowship hall on several occasions: the Time Capsule luncheon in June, the Navy band luncheon in September, the "Paint Ashburnham" art show in October, and now, the Contra Dance.

The committee felt it would be a gracious thing to pay the church for the use of the space, although the church has not asked to be compensated. Pat said the agenda for the Church Council meeting this Sunday includes updating the rate schedule for use of various rooms of the building. Patty will need an invoice from the church in order to pay them. Pat will see that one is drawn up and submitted.

Karen has sent thank-you notes to almost every volunteer who has participated in the year's events.

With the approaching holiday season and the end of Anniversary Year Celebration events, the committee has not yet scheduled a final meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Patricia H. Frederick*  
Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary