

Becket 250th Anniversary Committee Minutes

September 9, 2013

I. Call to order

Becket 250th Anniversary Committee (Committee) began the meeting at 4:03 P.M. on September 9, 2013 in Becket Town Hall.

II. Roll call

The following Committee members were present: Rita Furlong, Bruce Garlow, Sandi Jarvis, Michel P. Richard, Barbara Roberts, and George Roberts; guests Dan Berg representing Y Camps, Matt Shea representing Atlas fireworks

III. Open issues

- A. Minutes-August 5, 2013 minutes approved unanimously
- B. Chimney Corners, Y Camp, 2 days unless able to use Jacob's Pillow
 - a. E-mail from Linda Bacon [Thanks Linda]:
 - a. YMCA contract states "The consumption of alcohol on BCCMCA property by user group participants is limited. Alcohol consumption limitations are placed at BOC director discretion"
 - b. John Kelly, Kelly Liquors Dalton, law changes: serve invited guests only; Open public policy: steps 1) 1 day liquor permit; 2) purchase alcohol from wholesaler; 3) Pre pay the bill; 4) alcohol must be shipped to the owners, not YMCA; John Kelly would not be able to cater the event as the law stands, may change before 2015
 - b. Dan Berg reported
 - a. Phil Connor, CEO, does not want alcohol for our family event, open house, 250th event
 - b. Phil Connor in kind donations of hot dogs/hamburgers possibly lunch for the afternoon, staff maybe able to cook, supervise parking; will need an approximate number of attendees
 - c. Location of fireworks-at the dam, Saturday June 6 with Sunday June 7 rain date
 - d. Other staff support-swimming, boating, climbing, parking; Y staff meeting to discuss offerings; swimming not necessary-ropes course would be desirable
 - e. Car show-space at camps or at church/old common to draw attention to the activities at the camp
 - f. Aiming for Becket residents to participate
 - g. Support from Becket fire and police departments

- h. Geo caching-not done at camps, Barbara and Sandi may have resources to assist in the structure; quarry, Mullin House ravine area
- C. Motion for reimbursement to Linda Bacon in the amount of \$9.99 for Becket250.org, passed unanimously
- D. Ecumenical service-ask local religious leaders to organize the program, suggested several possible contacts; Memorial Day Bill Mulholland
- E. Fireworks- [Thanks George]
 - 1. George reported on his phone conversations and e-mails, rescheduled Matt Shea for today's meeting; has scheduled another company's representative to meet with the committee on October 7; \$3,500-\$5,500 price range; \$2,000 deposit in June 2015
 - 2. Matt Shea representative from Atlas Pyrotechnics
 - a. Length-short 12 minutes, recommends 15-18 minutes; Boston 20 minutes in length; can adjust time between fireworks 3-5 seconds; 20% finale-45 to 60 seconds
 - b. Cost-\$3,500-\$5,500; Springfield spends \$10,000-\$15,000; recommends under \$5,000, \$3,500 would last 12-15 minutes, \$5,000 for 18 minutes; we will use tax funds, some businesses might want to contribute for good public relations
 - c. Where-Chimney Corners at the dam
 - d. Date-Saturday June 5 or rain date Sunday June 6; "believe in your rain date" at this time of year
 - e. Time-not before 8:45P.M., Rita suggested after 9 P.M.
 - f. Need to request Fire Department support
 - g. Types-"250" on fence, Red/white/blue for town anniversary, ground effects, 6 different manufacturers, 4" maximum (Can Dan check on caliber used previously at camp?)
 - h. Music-\$7,500 range, music would drive the fireworks show in speed and duration
 - i. Insurance-company responsibility
- F. Jacob's Pillow
 - 1. E-mails from Ann Spadafora [Thanks Ann], Michel volunteered to assist Ann
 - a. Response from Patsy Garcia-Office Manager; forwarded to Connie Chin-General Manager and Norton Owen-Director of Preservation; all taking a break after long season, will get back to Ann; Jacob's Pillow has been a part of Becket history dating back to 1790 as a family farm
 - b. Ann has spoken with Connie Chin and Norton Owen, positive response to hosting some events, will discuss viability of 3 dates-in order of Committee preference: May 30(Saturday), June 5(Friday) or June 13(Saturday)
 - c. Plans a meeting with Connie or delegate in the coming weeks

G. History updates

1. E-mail from Bruce [Thanks Bruce], team effort, over 30 topics, look over attached list of topics and proposed contributors
 - a. Are all topics that we think we need listed? Are any missing? Are there any that should be deleted?
 - b. Need contact information (email, phone) for each contributor; suggestions of possible contributors
 - c. Establish definitive timeline-completion, final drafts, printer ready
 - d. Other matters to consider not listed
2. Discussed List of topics and contributor's for history update, see amended list on next page:

List of topics and contributors for history update September 7, 2013

Editor and section on government	Bruce Garlow	brucegarlow@yahoo.com	413 623-2362
Jacob's Pillow	Norton Owen		
St. Matthew's Church	Barbara Roberts	barb36@verizon.net	413 623-8851
Other churches	Rita Furlong	blueberryedge@gmail.com	413-623-5146
Kushi Institute	Alex Jack		
YMCA Camps	Dan Berg		
Camp Watitoh	Bill Hoch	Watitoh@msn.com	
Camp Tomoka			
Camp Tamarack			
Camp Greylock			
Camp Lenox (partially in Becket)			
Other camps?			
Housing, in general			
Summer cottages, seasonal residents			
Athenaeum			
Military history/	Skip Saville		
Veterans	Bill Mulholland		
Cemeteries	George Roberts	townclerk@townofbecket.org	623-8934 x 11
Fire service	Maddy Elovirta	MELOVIRTA@MSN.COM	
Police service	Bill Elovirta	bille@msn.com	
Ambulance service			
Schools			
Land Trust, non-profit open space			
Art Center			
Other cultural attractions?			
Dream Away Lodge			
General stores, other businesses			
Shaw Pond	Karen Karlberg	karenkarlberg@msn.com	441-0752
Other lakes and ponds-Center, Shaw, Greenwater, Rudd, Finerty, Bulkley-Dunton, Yokum, Town Beach			
Town parks	Rita Furlong	blueberryedge@gmail.com	413-623-5146
Town open space			
State parks, open space			
Federal parks, open space			
Private communities, i.e. Sherwood Forest, Becket Woods, Sherwood Greens, etc.			
Farms-numerous			
Maps	Sandi	sjarvis26@gmail.com	413-364-6206
Photos			
Graphics			
Webmaster	Dana Welts	drwelts@gmail.com	

IV. List of ideas to celebrate Becket's 250th

As of September 9, 2013

- A. Presently 4 days throughout Becket
1. North Becket-May 25 Memorial Day/weekend
 - a. Sunday, May 24-Kick-off/ celebration proclamation, Ecumenical service-ask religious leaders to organize a program
 - b. Dedication of monuments, historic events, Civil War soldiers
 - c. Honorees-Veterans, town employees, volunteers, oldest citizen
 - d. Monday, May 25-Parade-drum corp. floats, bands, state/county/local officials; neighboring towns, fellow 1765 incorporated towns, old cars
 - e. Becket Cultural District-Art Center (date to be determined)- Becket artist only art show, Becket photo gallery, period costumes? Historic Commission/Becket Athenaeum treasures exhibits; quilts-students, past and present Becket quilts at Mullen House or Art Center
 - f. BWS-tour, Student Art Show; play/theater, Berkshire Playwright, production by school children/town residents; resource Paul Campbell
 - g. Town song-Bobby Sweet
 2. Central Becket-Camps June 6 (7 rain date)
 - a. **Fireworks**-George has contacted 2 companies, Matt Shea attended September meeting
 - b. Parking, picnic food/cooking
 - c. Team games (softball, volleyball)
 - d. Field day events for families-run by camp personnel(?); pet obstacle course?
 - e. Costumes (people, pets-allowed on camp grounds?)
 - f. Contests (photo, beard growing, Town song/Rap, pie eating contest)
 - g. **Alcohol beverage policy** Dan reported there will be no alcohol allowed as Camp policy
 - h. Car show-old cars, new cars, farm machinery, ATVs; located at Old Common or Church to draw attention
 3. West Becket (private communities: Becket Woods, others interested?; Summit/Quarry)-
 - a. Fall bonfire
 - b. Scavenger hunt/geo cache challenge
 4. Jacob's Pillow- they are interested in participating
 - a. Ann has contacted with possible **dates**-May 30(Saturday), June 5(Friday) or June 13(Saturday), Michel also volunteered to assist Ann
 - b. Season opens about June 19, 2013; they have interns preparing site several weeks before opening

- c. Music concert- Bobby Sweet on board; local talent: Praise Team, Berkshire Highlands, Dave Bacon-Lady Di and the Dukes-acoustical, Home Fries, country band; Becket Rebels, Dharma Villa; Berkshire drum/drill teams, Highlanders, karaoke, music through the years; suggestions from local musicians; other types of music
- d. One venue for all music events
- e. Pillow interested in selling food?
- 5. Kid's events-Inside Out Stage?; dance piece-ballet: Dalton Ballet Studio, Swindlehurst school in Stockbridge
- 6. Town Pavilion-lights are on at the diamond, Friday night softball games, round robin tournament
- 7. Kushi, Dream Away,
- B. **250th book update**-historical maps; town history, businesses, schools, farms, people, need to submit information to Bruce, see List of topics and contributors for history update from Bruce dated September 7, 2013
- C. Oral/video histories-next school year include background interviews with families/groups; comparison of Becket to other areas residents have come from
- D. Becket Quarry/Appalachian Trail hikes; bike race/road race
- E. Tours-cemeteries, buildings, homes, farms, gardens
- F. Dance-Square (YMCA callers or school kids), line, Gala Ball, rent tent
- G. Children activities-decorated bikes, baby strollers, field day-check with BWS for equipment, face painting, homemade instruments
- H. Picnic/BBQ/Pancake Breakfast/Spaghetti Supper, clambake/lobster; birthday cake
- I. School connections-ALL grade levels, student projects: writing, stories, art, music; presently Grades 3-5 at BWS study Becket Quarry/tour; field day
- J. Souvenirs-tee shirts, sweatshirts, town flags, post cards, bumper stickers, mugs, water bottles, Frisbee, stationary ,commemorative plates, wooden nickel
- K. Cookbook-bake off; Farmer's Market
- L. Exhibits-chainsaw, wood/log cutting safety, wood carving, home building; Colonial/Civil War Encampments
- M. Tree planting(s) on Parade Grounds-American Elm; which trees were native to Becket that may have been lost presently? Chestnut?

H. **New Business-**

1. George agreed to record the minutes on October 7 [Thanks George]
2. Please make sure Michel Richard's address is included in any emails:
michelpaulrichard@gmail.com

I. **Next Meeting**

October 7, 2013

Becket Room, Town Hall 4 P.M.

Thank you for your continued attendance and support of this Committee! If you are no longer a member of this Committee please officially notify us so we can adjust our quorum requirement.

J. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at **5:18 P.M.**

Submitted by: Sandi Jarvis

Special Request:

We are looking for copies of old Becket Town Reports for the years: 1866, 1871, and 1973 (there are no archival copies available that we have found for these years).

We also need additional copies of 1970, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993 thru 1995, 1990, 1999, 2002, and 2004 thru 2010 to complete our town archival collections.

Thank you