

East Windsor 250
9-1-2016

The September 1, 2016 planning meeting for the 250th Anniversary Celebration of East Windsor met on the future patio of the Osborn House at the East Windsor Historical Society.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance:

Present: *Paul Anderson, Ashley Andriulli, Tom Arnone, *Jason Bowsza, Anthony Branciforte, John Burnham, Dan Donahue, Scott Grizey, Laura Harney, *Peg Hoffman, *Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, Kathy Pippin, Richard Pippin, Charles Riggott, Debbie Talamini, *Rebecca Talamini, *Tom Talamini, *Bill Thim, and *Lynne Tracy-Thim.
Absent: *Scott Morgan

*indicates steering committee members

Minutes Read: Our August 18, 2016 meeting was not a voting meeting. Two sets of minutes were reviewed tonight – August 4, 2016 and August 18, 2016.

Jason Bowsza made a motion to approve the August 4, 2016 minutes as presented. Paul Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Jason Bowsza made a motion to approve the August 18, 2016 minutes as presented. Paul Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Introduction Circle: The people present introduced themselves so new people could become familiar with everyone's names.

Community Spirit Awards: Paul Anderson read the announcement of the people in town receiving Community Spirit Awards. Three of our members received the awards: Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, and Rebecca Talamini. Congratulations to all winners.

La Notte: Ashley Andriulli, the event coordinator from La Notte, talked to us about possibilities for our kick-off New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball. Ashley has helped organize a Masquerade Wedding. She also provided an example of last year's New Year's Eve menu and extra items available. In general the New Year's Eve event is from 7 pm to 1 am. Last year they had a 2 hour open bar with hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner with pasta station and carving station, a Viennese dessert table and coffee station, champagne toast, and continental breakfast; the cost was \$80/person. They use Milestone Entertainment for most of their dj's with great success. La Notte will get a credit card number when taking the reservations and charge them the night of the event. As event hosts, the EW 250 would need to provide a \$250 deposit. La Notte has two banquet rooms: one holds 220 people, the other holds 120 people.

Some extras that are available for an extra charge include 5 hour open bar, a photo booth, a candy bar, and a s'more station. On New Year's Eve La Notte has an arrangement with The Baymont Inn; the Baymont Inn will offer a discounted rate and free shuttle service to our party guests.

OLD BUSINESS:

250th Logo: The Logo Committee didn't have anything new for this meeting. Bob from the print company was scheduled to join us at tonight's meeting, but couldn't make it. Paul found a sketch of the Academy building without bushes—the mock-up of the logo without the bushes looks better. The Logo Committee will have two logo ideas to vote on by next meeting. We will have a decision before Community Day. Logo subcommittee-*Paul Anderson, Kirk Montstream, and *Rebecca Talamini.

Time Capsule: Chuck Riggott remembers the time capsule; his father built it: the items were placed in a thick canvas bag which was wrapped with duct tape to keep out the moisture. The steel capsule was welded shut. The time capsule is about 5 feet tall and about 24 inches round. We will need a backhoe to take it out.

Time Capsule Committee: *Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Tim Easter, Kirk Montstream, Chuck Riggott, and *Bill Thim.

Fundraising Committee: Nothing new to report. The fundraising committee is going to create a timeline of fundraising milestones. Fundraising Committee: *Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, and Kirk Montstream. Point people: John Burnham and Laura Harney

Planning Committee: The 250th Celebration will be a series of events from New Year's Eve to Community Day in September. The planning committee is gathering a schedule of events town wide. At each of our events we hope to have a list of other events to attend in town that day/weekend; the handout will contain what, where, when and how to get there. EW Jim Richards page keeps a list of everything going on in town; he currently has September and October posted. We are also creating a list of civic groups and organizations in town; the list will include events organized by different groups and ideas how we can incorporate the existing events organized by these groups into our celebration.

Masquerade Ball ideas: The Masquerade Ball will be semi-formal attire with masks. We will have a mask at each place setting for our guests. In stead of a 5 hour open bar, we might have a 2 hour open bar with wine on the table. We can get sponsors for the New Year's Eve Party; they can either be mentioned in our advertisements and signs or a sponsoring business or organization can buy a table to sponsor.

Food Truck Event: We talked about the Food Truck Event perhaps being an augment of an event at the Trolley Museum, such as the Farmer's Market. The food trucks would be at the airport with the Trolley's stopping there. The parking and food trucks would be at the airport. Members of the committee are going to visit the Pirate and Food Truck Festival in Enfield (September 2nd and 3rd) to get an idea of the set up and food available.

Other Events Ideas:

- Farmers Market and Beer Garden
- Reenactment Camp
- A Powwow

- A Looming Demonstration

We need more volunteers. This is going to be a very involved committee. If anyone wants to help organize one or more events, please email the 250th committee at EW250@eastwindsorct.com.

Planning Committee: Laura Harney, *Diane Lajoie, Debbie Talamini, and *Lynn Tracy-Thim. {Point Person: Lynn Tracy-Thim}

Promotion and Merchandise Committee: We intend to sell merchandise at all events. Geissler's has said they will sell our 250th t-shirts. One suggestion was that businesses can have people wear our 250th t-shirts as a uniform on certain established days. Promotion & Merchandise Committee: Dan Donahue, Scott Grizey, *Peg Hoffman, and *Rebecca Talamini

Parade and Picnic Committee: Possible Parade Route: Route 5 is a state road; you need permission from the state for the parade. Committee: Laura Haney, *Diane Lajoie and *Rebecca Talamini

Social Media Committee: Rebecca Talamini created our 250th Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EastWindsor250/>; it has 162 likes so far. Keep sharing the page and invite people to like it. Please send Rebecca Talamini anything you would like posted on the Facebook page. Bob will build a web site. Social Media Committee: *Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, and *Rebecca Talamini

Print Advertising Committee: Paul is going to look into setting up a banner at the 4-Town Fair. Print Advertising Committee: *Paul Anderson and *Peg Hoffman

NEW BUSINESS:

Advertising and Press Committee: The advertising and press committee will be responsible for releasing press releases to the local newspapers and radio stations. Our goal is to bring people from all over to visit East Windsor and see what we have to offer. The Advertising and Press Committee will also invite local reporters to cover our events throughout the year. We still need to establish an Advertising and Press Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS:

East Windsor Arcadia Book: The East Windsor Arcadia book is due to be released in August 2017.

Next Meeting: The EWHS Raffle will be on the agenda for the next meeting on September 15, 2016.

Display Ideas: We talked about creating a 250 on the lawn out of boxes like a sculpture. We are also going to create a 400' by 400' 250 burned into the field across from the historical society; we will invite the press and the fire department to be there on the burning day.

Bill Thim made a motion to adjourn. Paul Anderson seconded the motion.
The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Lajoie