



**East Windsor 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee  
Meeting - October 20, 2016  
East Windsor Historical Society – Scantic Academy Museum  
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, Connecticut**

**Call to Order:**

The Meeting was called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Talamini in the Scantic Academy Museum.

**Attendance:**

\*Rebecca Talamini, Chairman; Robert Maynard, First Selectman; \*Jason Bowsza, Selectman; Ceil Donahue; Dan Donahue; Tim Easter, Laura Harney; Peg Hoffman; Michael Hunt; ; Kirk Monstream; \*Scott Morgan, Debbie Talamini; \*Tom Talamini; \*Lynn Tracey-Thim; \*Bill Thim.

(\* indicates Steering Committee member)

**Special Guests:** Cheryl Connell, Opera House Players; William (Bill) Hosley, noted historian.

**Approval of Minutes:**

• **September 15, 2016 Meeting:**

**MOTION:** APPROVE the Minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting of the East Windsor 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee.

Bill Thim moved/Lynn Tracy-Thim seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

• **October 6, 2016 Special Meeting:**

**MOTION:** APPROVE the Minutes of the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Special Meeting of the East Windsor 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee.

Bill Thim moved/Lynn Tracy-Thim seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

**Introductions:** Everyone present introduced themselves to others in the group.

**Communications:** Nothing this evening.

**Special Guests:** Mr. Bowsza introduced Bill Hosley, past Curator for the Wadsworth Atheneum, and noted historian for all things Connecticut Mr. Hosley .reported he has, in the past, participated in parish

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activities at St. John's Church (Warehouse Point), and participated in a graveyard tour at the Scantic Cemetery.

Mr. Hosley noted a few of East Windsor's earlier settlers who became famous, among them Thomas Potwine, who was the first Minister of the Scantic Parish; also Eliphalet Chapin, a renowned furniture maker, and William Pynchon, who settled in the Warehouse Point section and built a warehouse below the falls at Enfield to store goods shipped up the Connecticut River before they were transported overland to other locations. Mr. Hosley noted another famous citizen of East Windsor was Jonathan Edwards, a famous theologian; the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth occurred in 2001. Mr. Hosley noted the clock in the Scantic Church was built by Stephen Terry; the clock is one of only a small number of those surviving today. Mr. Hosley spoke warmly of his friendship with Ellsworth Stoughton – the founder of the East Windsor Historical Society.

Mr. Hosley reported he feels the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is a great idea; he feels more local history is the answer to problems – like the current elections. He suggested he would build a bridge to the local school system which gives students something different to focus on. Selectman Bowsza spoke of his visit to Tolland in June to speak with organizers of Tolland's recent 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. Selectman Bowsza suggested this committee could perhaps plan a lecture series in which each segment would cover a span of 50 years ; both East Windsor and Connecticut history could be included. He suggested the goal is to build community spirit. Mr. Hosley noted Windsor did an event to highlight the Howard House based on the world in the year 1810. Mr. Hosley noted he's participated in East Windsor's New Year's Day hike along the Scantic River, which he felt was a wonderful resource, as is the area along the Connecticut River behind Meadowview Condominiums. And he noted the oldest part of East Windsor is actually East Windsor Hill, which is now part of South Windsor. Discussion followed regarding local American Indian encampments located within East Windsor.

Cheryl Connell, of the Opera House Players, joined the conversation. She reported the Opera House Players are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018 as well. Ms. Connell reported they would like to create a bigger relationship within the East Windsor community which would make Broad Brook a more vibrant part of the town, with Broad Brook perhaps becoming a center for the arts. Discussion continued noting the morphing of the five villages into East Windsor; various people spoke of the unique characteristics of each village. Mr. Hosley gave an example of a local Warehouse Point resident, Sophie Blodgett, who worked in the insurance industry in Hartford, but never owned a car. He suggested maybe the Opera House Players could do a founders production as one of the anniversary events. Mr. Donahue suggested holding a block party in Broad Brook; Ms. Connell suggested holding a block party on different weekends in each of the five villages.

**Subcommittee review**

**a. Logo:**

Chairman Talamini sent a copy of the final logo design to all committee members. The owner of the Copy Shoppe reworked the design free of charge; we hope to use him as a source of promotional items as much as possible. He's been given a free sponsorship for his contribution. (Logo subcommittee- \*Paul Anderson, Kirk Montstream, and \*Rebecca Talamini)

**b. Time Capsule:**

No report this evening, but it was noted the container should be available for the Fall of 2017 to start accumulating items. Mr. Monstream reported Mr. Burnham has

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available a van which can be driven around to events for people to contribute items as well. (Time Capsule Committee: \*Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Tim Easter, Kirk Montstream, Chuck Riggott, and \*Bill Thim.)

**c. Planning:**

Mrs. Thim is sending out an official invitation letter to organizations in town; the invitation will be signed by Chairman Talamini and Mrs. Thim. Committee member Lajoie had suggested creating an online calendar; Chairman Talamini will send the web link from Ms. Lajoie to First Selectman Maynard. The link has a donation component.

- **Masquerade Ball:** The Ball is scheduled for New Year's Eve, 2017 at La Notte. This is NOT a fundraising event. Discussion followed regarding the duration of the open bar; members decided on a 5 hour open bar.

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

**d. Fundraising:**

Andy Hoffman reported they have not yet had an opportunity to meet, but he has sent John Burnham a letter outlining 10 fundraising options, and a 2 month Microsoft project schedule. Chairman Talamini reported Mr. Burnham will be taking a step back from the fundraising temporarily as he's involved in several other projects. This sub-committee is also looking for additional members. First Selectman Maynard reported that Tolland offered various tiers of donations; businessowners can post a sign in their window advertising their level of commitment. Chairman Talamini suggested the donation tiers could be identified by a village name. Mr. Thim suggested small signs that people can post in their yards to promote their donations as well. Fundraising Committee: \*Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, and Kirk Montstream. Point people: John Burnham and Laura Harney)

**e. Promo/merchandise:**

Mrs. Donahue doesn't like the quality of the tee shirts offered by the Copy Shoppe; she prefers the Windsor Locks vendor. She did like the mugs, which carry photographs rather than the logo; Ms. Hoffman reported the Copy Shoppe quoted her mugs at \$6.95 each when ordering 100. Ms. Lajoie is working on acquiring quotes for car magnets. Discussion followed regarding various promotional items; a spreadsheet compared prices for various vendors. Mr. Donahue is waiting for a call back from his MinuteMan contact.

Ms. Harney suggested selling glasses at a beer fest; Mrs. Donahue recalled a vendor at the food truck event in Enfield that sold mugs which would then be refilled. Chairman Talamini suggested selling mason jars instead of mugs.

Additional promotional items suggested were coins, hats, hoodies, calenders . Ms. Hoffman reported Staples offers calendars which include event dates. (Promotion & Merchandise Committee: Dan Donahue, Scott Grizey, \*Peg Hoffman, and \*Rebecca Talamini)

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**f. Parade/picnic:**

The committee is planning to combine Community Day as one of the Anniversary events. Ms. Harney noted Community Day for 2018 is presently scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Anniversary Parade could be combined with the Community Day Parade. If the location of Community Day remains the East Windsor Reservoir people could be bussed from the schools or St. Catherine Church. (Parade/Picnic Committee: Laura Haney, \*Diane Lajoie and \*Rebecca Talamini)

**g. Advertising/press:**

Chairman Talamini noted a reporter from the local free newspaper is preparing an article. We still need to establish an Advertising and Press Committee.

**h. Web and Social media:**

First Selectman Maynard reported the Anniversary web page has been set up; he'll now add the logo. Ms. Lajoie plans to add the online calendar. Chairman Talamini reported Facebook continues to get more hits daily. (Social Media Committee: \*Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, and \*Rebecca Talamini).

**i. Print advertising:**

No report. (Print Advertising Committee: \*Paul Anderson and \*Peg Hoffman).

**Other/Public participation**

Ms. Hoffman reported she researched East Windsorology; a short discussion followed. The committee is no longer interested in this promotional item as it was done in 1968.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION:** To ADJOURN at 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Morgan moved/Mr. Thim seconded/VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted, Peg Hoffman