



East Windsor 250th Anniversary Committee
January 19, 2017
East Windsor Historical Society

The January 19, 2017 planning meeting for the 250th Anniversary Celebration of East Windsor met at the Osborn House of the East Windsor Historical Society.

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

Attendance:

Present: *Paul Anderson, John Burnham, *Jason Bowsza, Ceil Donahue, Dan Donahue, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, *Peg Hoffman, *Diane Lajoie, Kirk Montstream, Tim Moore, *Scott Morgan, Ian Neill, Debbie Talamini, *Rebecca Talamini, *Tom Talamini, *Bill Thim, *Lynne Tracy-Thim

Absent:

*indicates steering committee members

Minutes Reading: The minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting were not available for review; they will be reviewed at the February 2, 2017 meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

We introduced ourselves at the start of the meeting.

We were reminded about the casino discussion at 7 pm on January 24th.

Superintendent Dr. Theresa Kane joined tonight's meeting. Dr. Kane said the schools are excited to be part of our 250 celebration. Dr. Kane will help get us an idea of what activities are best for each age group. Dr. Kane retiring in 2017; Dr. Christine DeBarge will take over as superintendent in October 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Time Capsule: The committee found it will cost between \$1000 and \$2000 to buy a 2' by 4' time capsule and about \$500 for a new stone for the capsule. (The 1968 time capsule is about 2' diameter by 5' long. There was a suggestion to price cement cemetery vaults also.

The committee suggests we should accept everything suggested for the time capsule and decide what to put in it once everything is collected. We would also like to pick a couple of items from 1968 time capsule to put in our 2018 time capsule; those items will be 100 years old when our time capsule is opened. We would like to pick items that touch on every event we schedule for the celebration and a copy of the town's annual report.

We would love it if the schools created a small school time capsule to go into our time capsule. The time capsule will be opened in their lifetime and children often see the world in ways adults can't imagine

The 1968 time capsule will be opened at a special town meeting on Saturday May 19, 2018. The East Windsor Historical Society would like to create a permanent display of the 1968 time capsule and its contents.

The Time Capsule Committee will also look into where we are burying our 2018 time

capsule. There are more regulations in 2018 than there were in 1968
Time Capsule Committee: *Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Tim Easter, Kirk
Montstream, Chuck Riggott, and *Bill Thim.

Planning Committee:

Slogan Contest: Debbie Talamini is working with the Leo Club on the slogan contest. The collection boxes have been distributed to the high school and town hall. The contest is being advertised on Facebook, the town and EW250 websites, and the JI. February 10th is the deadline for the logo submission.

Masquerade Ball: This year the price was \$95 per person for 5 hour open bar, or \$75 per person for a 2 hour open bar. Based on their results this year, La Notte's is not going to offer a 2 hour open bar next year, only a 5 hour open bar.

Laura Harney asked for quotes from the Merlot on the Water: 2 hour open bar would be \$117/person; 5 hour open bar would be \$130/person. We discussed doing a possible family winter ball without alcohol on December 30, 2017. However most of our events are family friendly and we decided one "adult-only" night would be a good way to begin the celebration.

Scott Morgan made a motion to give La Notte's a \$250 deposit for the December 31, 2017 Masquerade Ball. Bill Thim seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Blues, Brews, and BBQ Event: Laura Harney is still searching for a location for the event; she has been playing phone tag looking into the Golden Gavel parking lot. Laura is also going to look into some local bands such as the *Drive Time Party Band* or *Stray Dogs*, both from East Windsor.

Winter Festival: We are planning a Winter Festival in February, possibly at the Res. Sledding, skating, and hot chocolate are some of the ideas. Laura has also found a person who can make an Ice Sculpture for \$500 to \$900; Debbie Talamini saw this person's work recently.

The Victorian Lady: Lynne Tracy-Thim presented details about a period fashions/home life demonstration. The Victorian Lady charges \$395 for 1 hour or \$450 for 1 ½ hours. We are thinking this should be our big event for March. The Warehouse Point Library has shown interest in hosting it.

Reenactment: We are looking into a Revolutionary War Reenactment. The group is based out of Connecticut. In addition to the military exercises, they have tents that show displays on how people lived (cooking, washing, etc). The charge is \$1200 to \$1500 per day. They need potable water, an electric supply, and enough room for the reenactment, tents, and spectators.

It was suggested that we should try to do the reenactment and the food truck fest together. One event will pull people in for the other. Lynn Tracey-Thim will check to see if the reenactment can be done in June.

Vintage Baseball Game Exhibition: We are trying to get the Vintage Baseball game for May, 2018. The club is from Essex, MA. They usually charge \$1000 per event, but they will only charge us for their expenses – about \$600. The High School would be the best place to offer this game; it is easy to find, they have the fields, and there is plenty of parking.

Wood Carver: Debbie Talamini has also seen a wood carving demonstration that we might want to add to one of our events. She is going to look into Magnolia Farms on Rt. 5 about possible wood carving for our EW250.

We still 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. We may need to create subcommittees for some of

our larger projects, such as the Masquerade Ball.

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

Fundraising Committee:

We are going to send a fundraising kickoff letter to the editor to the Courant and JI to notify the town that we are starting our fundraising. There will be a mass mailing in April or May to the residents in town. We have some promo merchandise to bring to potential donors during personal visits.

Dan Donahue looked into the legality of a GoFundMe page. Dan spoke with the town treasurer, and we can set one up the way the Youth Center did. The GoFundMe page will be set up through a private person and then the committee will submit the money to the town. Dan will set up a GoFundMe page for the EW250 with a \$25,000 goal.

We discussed creating lawn signs with donation levels to promote a little friendly competition in the business community. However this town has a lot of small businesses who can't afford substantial donations; we do not want to alienate this important part of our town. We decided donors will receive "We support EW250" window signs without a dollar level designation. The Copy Shoppe should be able to create these signs.

Fundraising Committee: *Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, and Kirk Montstream. Point people: John Burnham and Laura Harney

Promotion and Merchandise Committee: All the merchandise we ordered has arrived: sweatshirts, tote bags, car magnets, and coffee mugs. The magnets and coffee mugs are from an outside vendor, purchased through CJ's. CJ's gave us a \$100 credit towards the next order because there was a delay in the magnets and mugs. The magnets and mugs are selling for \$5 each; the totes for \$8 each, and the sweatshirts for \$20 each.

So far we have sold \$500 in merchandise. The sweatshirts and totes arrived in time for the January 1, 2017 hike; we have sold out of the medium sweatshirts. We can use an order of about 20 small and 15 medium sweatshirts.

The Merchandise Committee will also look into hats. The logo would be tricky on a hat, so we are asking to see a mock-up of the hats. The hats should be embroidered, not silk screened. The committee is also going to look into ordering round pencils with erasers with the EW250 website on them.

Diane Lajoie made a motion to approve an addition \$500 to allow the Merchandising Committee to spend up to \$600 on new merchandise. Scott Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Additional ideas for merchandise are straw hats and collector's coins. We will create a 2018 calendar available for sale at the 4 Town Fair and the Masquerade Ball.

Promotion & Merchandise Committee: Ceil Donahue, Dan Donahue, Scott Grizey, *Peg Hoffman, and *Rebecca Talamini

Parade and Picnic Committee: At the selectman's meeting on December 20, 2016, Steve Dearborn offered to combine with some other businesses to pay for fireworks for community day 2018 \$5000. We also discussed having a bonfire and smores.

We would like to get the schools involved in our Community Day/Parade planning.

Some suggestions include:

- Fife and Drum Corp competition
- Governor's Foot Guard
- Old Military Vehicles in the parade

- Vintage Cars
- Fire Trucks
- Clowns

We will look into people to hire for the parade. In 1968 they hired the Mummers. If we intend to invite dignitaries such as senators or local TV or radio personalities we should send the invitations soon. The Military base in town has a family day in May, and we can speak to the organizers of the Fire Department parades.

Committee: Laura Haney, *Diane Lajoie and *Rebecca Talamini

Social Media Committee: Rebecca added the slogan contest to our Facebook page. Rebecca has updated the website with slogan, merchandise, calendar, events, and subcommittees. Rebecca will email Theresa Kane the information about the slogan contest so she can get it on the school website.

We need to set up a disclaimer that any photos or videos submitted are available for the EW250 to use. Submission is permission for us to use the submissions in any way we intend.

Keep sharing our Facebook page with your friends:

<https://www.facebook.com/EastWindsor250/>.

Social Media Committee: *Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, and *Rebecca Talamini

Print Advertising Committee: We will use Copy Shoppe for all of our printing. Rebecca has his contact email for the Copy Shoppe.

Print Advertising Committee: *Paul Anderson and *Peg Hoffman

Advertising and Press Committee:

We will advertise the slogan contest.

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:

It is time to distribute an updated email address list.

Scott Morgan made a motion to adjourn. Paul Anderson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Lajoie