

May 7, 2014

OLD HOME DAYS MINUTES

The May meeting of the Old Home Days Committee was held in the Whitney Hall Conference Room. Those in attendance were: Marjorie Carr, Jen Thody, Janice Amaral, Lori Bliss-Hill, Shirley Green, Becky Powell, Kristin Harrington, and Meredith Smith, Chair. The Committee welcomed new member Kristin Harrington.

Meredith Smith gave a brief overview of the activities and events planned to date which include: Chili Cook-off, Band Concert, Quilt Show, Enchanted Island, Greeley House Open House, Library Ice Cream Social, Fire Department Chicken Barbeque, Community Dance, Shaker Museum Exhibits and Free Admission, Conservation Commission Hike, and Lockhaven Schoolhouse Reenactment 1850 School Day. Smith also mentioned that the Mascoma Bank was hosting their annual barbeque on July 25 and that they should be invited to make their event part of Old Home Days. Smith will contact the bank and propose this idea.

Becky Powell discussed plans for the Enchanted Island to date. She would like people to start collecting materials for the fairy houses for the island and also any other "sparkly" materials. Becky is trying to arrange for the Recreation Department Camp kids to make fairy houses to be on display on the island. Andrea Gilbert will make laminated poison ivy signs and assist in other ways.

There was an extensive discussion of the community dance. Two 20 X 40 tents have been reserved with Pro Mania Tents. Stephanie Beliveau has suggested that the tent company can provide lighting at a cost of .95 cents a linear foot. All agreed this would be a good idea. It was also suggested that perhaps Mascoma Bank might be asked to sponsor the lighting with a sign acknowledging their contribution. Meredith will follow up on this. Stephanie is also negotiating to borrow the Lion's small stage as a place for the musician to be located outside the tent. Meredith suggested the committee purchase three dozen solar lights to illuminate the tent peg areas. All agreed and she will purchase the lights at a cost of \$1 per light. The issue of David Stewart occupying the pavilion came up once again. Smith said she had relayed an offer to Jeanine King for him to use the tent area as an alternative, thus avoiding the snow fence, but she has not heard back. Kristin Harrington volunteered to contact David Stewart as he is her neighbor, proposing this idea. Lori Bliss is all set to proceed with the beer tent/garden but the earlier she can set up in the pavilion, the easier it will be for her. Paula Rowe has agreed to assist in lining up police for the dance.

Shirley Green gave a financial report. She has collected a little over \$1700 to date. Janice Amaral and Kristin Harrington agreed to assist in fund raising efforts. Shirley will email Janice and Kristin with names of people or businesses to be contacted. There was also a discussion of how to handle larger donations and what to do about people who wanted to advertise. All agreed it would not be appropriate to have a brochure made up of advertising. Larger donors will be considered and listed as "Major Donors" in the program. Sponsorships are also another option, such as sponsoring a tent, music, lighting, etc. It was also agreed that June 15 should be the final date for all submissions, both fund raising and any event listing changes.

Shirley Green said that Norman Lessard from the Knights of Columbus had contacted her regarding the possibility of the Knights hosting a noontime barbeque on Sunday, probably at the La Salette Shrine. They did a similar barbeque last year at St. Helena's but would like to have a larger location. Shirley will follow up with Norman.

The Conservation Commission hike may be changed to another outdoor event. They are talking to the Recreation Department about some type of co-sponsored event, to be held on Sunday and on the 4A side of the lake, possibly at the ball field.

Kristin Harrington has offered to head up a bake sale at a location to be determined. It was thought that Saturday would be the best day. Any funds raised would be donated to the Old Home Days fund.

The issue of tents and the expense involved with renting them every year prompted a discussion of possibly acquiring a tent for both Old Home Days and other such town events. All agreed this would be a worthwhile goal to work towards in our fund raising efforts.

It was also mentioned that two pop up tents will be needed for Lori's food area. Meredith suggested Lori borrow the EVA tent. These tents might also serve for the bake sale.

A discussion of the program resulted in a decision to have the card stock with the business donors and phone numbers on the inside with the program of events in regular copy paper on the outside. The card stock more permanent part of the program would be inserted inside the paper portion, the reverse of last year's program. Earlier it had been decided to keep the Whitney Hall image as the picture/logo part of the program but not in color as last year's to keep costs down.

Meredith suggested that 11 X 17 laminated posters with listings of all the events could be made more cheaply than the larger ones made last year which were rather pricy. By making the smaller posters, many more can be created for distribution around town. These will not replace the general poster to be created advertising Old Home Days. The larger ones will simply be listings of events and locations of the events.

Finally, all felt that a parade should be a goal for next year's celebration. It was also mentioned that we need to start earlier and have our meetings throughout the year, using Canaan as a "role model".

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20. Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 4 at 5:30. The time is getting short so all committee members are urged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Smith, Chair