

## **250th Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **January 12, 2016**

**Present:** Scott Bugbee, Candace Pratt, Frank Reinhold, Annie Gasowski, Marian Kelsey, Jan Allen, Penny Stetson, Laura Gund, Pat Jenkins, Brian Seeley, Mary Woodward, Cindy Jones.

Meeting began at 9:00am.

1. Approved minutes from both December meetings with the following changes, Penny was not in attendance, the price for coins was set at \$10.
2. Opening Ceremony: Jan reviewed the plans for this event, which takes place Saturday. Marian stated that the ORMS Band members would like to leave after playing. Jan suggested that she would place them near an exit but needed to see the space first to see what would work. She planned to meet with Scott Nemet and Bill to discuss the new layout, since the event was moved into the Bays. Committee members volunteered to take on the various tasks needed to complete plans and make the event run smoothly. The invited Representatives, who had not yet responded, would be contacted. Speaking time would be limited to 2 minutes per person. Brian shared concerns about the forecasted weather, possible rain or snow. The fire trucks could not be out in the weather for too long or the water will freeze, so we need to be mindful of the time. A move was made and passed, to donate \$200 to the ORMS music program. Scott will be responsible for bringing the souvenirs from the library.
3. Website update: Frank shared that he had added the passport section to the website, updated several areas and was working on scanning photos from earlier parades, donated by Penny through the LHS Museum. The parade application would be added when ready.
4. July weekend update: Brian and Scott presented the newly improved draft of the parade application, based on Brian's discussions with Primex Insurance and taken in part from Portsmouth's form. We went over it in detail, tailoring it to Lee's needs. Scott will make those changes. Brian has also been working with the Police, Fire and Emergency to coordinate needs and fill out necessary forms for FEMA and NH.

Issues in the contract sparked several discussions about our plans; including the need for identifying clothing for the committee members in charge that day, communication devices, categories, judges and prizes for the floats, whether farms were family or commercial entries. Commercial entries will be asked to pay a \$10 entry fee. Candace recommended Hodges Badges as a source for prizes. The question of whether we wanted to add a food drive to the parade (Portsmouth does this) arose. It was decided that we would contact the Wilkerson Food pantry to see if they would like to do this, and we would just advertise it.

The search for a parade MC continues. Tom Bergeron is not available. John Hutton was suggested and will be contacted. Finding bands for the parade is still an issue. The 39<sup>th</sup> Army Band will not be able to attend, Frank is still working with the bagpipe group, and so far no other marching band has been identified. Laura is working with Dick Babcock who can arrange a group, 4-5 will cost \$250, more will cost \$650. The group will not march but will play on a float.

Other July weekend discussions ensued, including the Church Barbecue for Saturday night, which is still pending, awaiting final approval from the Church members. The Frieze Band, which has about 30

members, will be playing Sunday, rain or shine in either the pavilion or large tent if necessary, from 1-3 PM. Their fee is \$600. A Seacoast Barbershop group will perform for 45 minutes to 1 hour for \$500, or we can request small groups. They will be asked to perform on Saturday afternoon. Laura is still looking for contemporary music groups to perform on Saturday as well.

Frank presented a photo of the brass bells, one to be given to the town, the other raffled off at the parade. The plaque will say "Town of Lee, New Hampshire Semiquincentennial 1766-2016. Each one will cost \$99 plus engraving and shipping. A motion was made to allow Frank to make this purchase, which was passed.

5. Sponsorship: We have the lists of businesses who have donated to the Town Fair in the past. The Fair committee has asked the town for an increased budget, knowing that we would be tapping the same source this year. A group will review this list, update it, add other town businesses, and assess the needs and budget of the committee. This will be brought back to the committee in February.

6. Souvenir update: Scott has ordered the coins which will arrive soon but not in time for the Opening Ceremony. Frank said the wine glasses are on order but have not arrived yet. Sales are going well. Jan will add the availability of the souvenirs to the e-crier article about the opening ceremony.

7. Passport update: Jan reported that the passports are being copied at 50% discount by the Postal Center, and will be ready for the opening. She will let people know when she will be cutting and collating them at the library if anyone would like to help. Letters were sent to the Farms listed in the AG. Brochure to alert them to the passport program, and offered to create stickers for them to distribute to passport holders. She gave Scott stickers for the Mast programs.

8. Closing ceremony ideas: The culmination of the Passport Program will be the exhibition of artwork and written material of the various activities, and especially the entries for the "Image-In-Lee" portion. Taking place in December, date undecided, Jan suggested doing a "Mast Trees of Lee" program based on the York, Maine "Foster Trees". Local groups, families, and businesses would donate trees to be raffled off, the proceeds going to local charities. Cindy was familiar with a similar program in Salisbury and added support. It was suggested that this would not only end the Semiquincentennial year but perhaps begin a new Lee tradition. More discussion will follow.

9. Mast Events Update: Members of the committee have been meeting with Don Quigley and members of the NH Colonial Brigade to finalize plans for all four programs. Dates are set and times are being worked out with the school schedule. The Brigade is creating the script for the "Tar and Feather Program". Don has offered the booklet, New England Mast Trees, and it was suggested that we ask Pat Roop to create an article from this as an informational piece. Apparently 1766 was the turning point when King George decided to take ownership of trees on private land, which instigated the Pine Tree Revolution. Cindy suggested that a gentleman in Epping has written a book, Big Trees of New Hampshire, and does speaking engagements, which Mast Way School may be interested in.

10. Laura reminded us of our commitment to volunteering at the Ag. Committee Breakfast on March 13

11. Frank updated us on plans for the JubiLee. Flag Hill is taking on the major burden and would like to know that the committee will commit to supporting the program in order to keep the ticket price within a reasonable range. \$25 was suggested as the adult ticket price, \$20 for the 12 and over group, and free

to children. In addition to the Farm to Table Buffet there will be entertainment and exhibits provided by the farms. The committee will support the program, the amount to be determined after the sponsor group comes back with more information.

12. Annie said that she and Paul would like to coordinate and promote the Lee Videos Night to take place on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Next meeting is set for February 9 at 9 AM. The meeting adjourned at 12:15.