

Bicentennial Committee Minutes
Asa Water Mansion, 123 Elm Street

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Wednesday March 7, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Present: Bill Kane, Rob Morton, Carole Chiras, Ron Marlborough, Joyce Ostrowski, Paul DiCicco, Jeff Dore, E. Joseph McKeon, Mary Lou Mulhane, Denise Marlborough, Paul Raffa, Jamie Rembiszewski, Lynn Winston. **Guest:** Brian Ashmankas

Absent: Cyndi Burr, David Cofske, Roger Desrosiers, Catherine Elliot, Frank Gagliardi, Karen Gagliardi, Ann Gasco, Chris Sinacola, Peg Spang, Carol Vultor, Armand White

Chairman Kane opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. with 13 members present

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Rob Morton, seconded by Ron Marlborough to approve minutes of the February 1, 2012 meeting. No discussion. **Motion** carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joyce reported that the committee has a net of \$185,870.58. (attached). **Motion** made by Denise Marlborough, seconded by Paul Raffa to accept the report. **Motion** passed unanimously.

UPDATES

Bill asked if everyone has completed the online ethics test, and if everyone received a letter from the Town Clerk about changes in the laws.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/FUNDRAISING REPORT (Rob Morton)

Wine Tasting – date is 11/3/2012; date was changed to accommodate the cemetery walk.

Capital Campaign Banner – Millbury Women's Club will be giving proceeds from their wine tasting to the MBC.

Motion made by Cyndi Burr, seconded by Mary Lou Mulhane to purchase a banner for the Women's Club. NO discussion. **Motion** carried unanimously.

Thermometer – will be updated in April to show \$210,000 raised, \$250,000 goal. We want to show that we are getting close to the goal, but we don't want to show that we have raised everything. We may or may not do a press release.

Coins, VFA Santa, Ray's - Coins sales are doing well, VFA Santa sales will hopefully pick up closer to the holiday. An advertisement in the Millbury-Sutton Chronicle developed on our behalf to promote MBC merchandise available at Ray's True Value.

Commemorative Plates - In development using Pam Gover's hand-drawn art that she drew for the MBC coins display; it will be an original art piece. The back will have a decal with the MBC logo and each will be numbered. Between artwork etc the cost will be \$21 a plate. We will sell for \$30 per plate and order 50 at a time. We will have a plate for approval in a couple of months.

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Miscellaneous

- Council on Aging Director Judy O'Connor asked for a banner to be used every time we use the vans, stating "Courtesy of the Millbury Senior Center". Carole Chiras said the banners will be magnetic and placed on the doors.
- Rob Morton reported that there will be no "zip trip".
- Rep. Jim McGovern's office is looking into the flyover.

MEDIA REPORT (Paul Raffa)

Website - not too much going on; Facebook - doing well. Paul is concerned that political people in town are advertising their events in town on the MBC Facebook page. Any political or religious messages will be removed.

Nobody is coming to the monthly meetings so Paul is changing them to bi-monthly meetings. Bill asked if members are contributing (yes) and if the Reenactment is on the website yet (no). There is a sign up page on a separate website that is for the re-enactors. Once sign-ups are done, Paul will make the page more consumer friendly – timelines etc.

EVENTS REPORT (Ron Marlborough)

Next meeting is tomorrow 3/8 at the Mansion. Not many updates on events. He will meet the gentleman from the Shriners at the St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday. Lynn Winston has preliminary brochure information; has made request for singer for the National Anthem. Lynn has 20 volunteers signed up. Ron wanted to know who decides on the Guest Speaker at the Ball; Bill said the ball committee can decide.

Revolutionary War Re-Enactment: Paul reported that Maura and Jay (O'Connor) will allow use of the barn at Stowe Farms to host a meal. Bill said we may be able to bring in additional porta potties; 3 regular and 1 handicapped. Paul will check with Kent (Stowe) to see about them at his place (Hawk Hill). Stowe can accommodate about 300 cars.

HISTORY REPORT (Carole Chiras)

The sub-committee is still planning the tour of West Millbury. IBA in town is working on a flyer (with Marylou and Frank). Four places no longer exist but will have signs; sub-committee has received bids from IBA and Creative Signworks. We will have town pictures enlarged and given to teachers with a request that they do a history unit near Millbury's birthday. Four sites for signage include Richers Mill off Carleton Road, Thomas Blanchard's shop, the Amasa Wood home, and Pine Grove Villa (where Asa Waters II was born). Cyndi Burr asked why we are not doing other parts of town. At this time we are concentrating on West Millbury – the tour starts at Elmwood Street School and goes to Old Common, the airport, and the Congregational Church. The tour concludes at the Gowing Bridge; every tour will end with the encouragement to do a walking tour.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legacy Committee: on hold for now; we have no idea of how much money we will have for a legacy. Sutton took 4 years to execute their legacy. We may also want to do additional fundraising after the bicentennial.

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Correspondence with Millbury, Ohio: Paul DiCicco said the contact in Ohio will be happy to participate. Someone will have to coordinate this. Paul will follow up with Roger Desrosiers.

Calendar of Events: money approved at the last meeting to do card-stock calendar mailing; need Paul Raffa's input on design. Details and dates finalized. It can be printed on both sides, maybe put advertisers on back side. Jeff Dore said the Chronicle will be distributing a 2 town wide publication to all residences which might be a resource for distributing the Calendar of Events.

Paw Sox/McCoy Stadium: **Motion** made by Ron Marlborough, seconded by Denise Marlborough to table this fundraiser. **Motion** passed unanimously.

Redevelopment Authority Clock Project: Executive Committee thinks we should not be a part of this, and voted to bring it to the full board. The Clock will most likely be done earlier than when we know what funds we have available for a legacy, and more importantly our legacy should be something that we wholly own. **Motion** made by Paul Raffa, seconded by Ron Marlborough to table this idea. **Motion** carried unanimously.

Community Involvement: We need someone to head this and get a committee going to solicit different organizations such as the Lions Club, Women's Club, Boy Scouts etc. to see how they are going to participate in the parade (floats) and other events. Paul DiCicco, a Library Trustee, said the Library will participate and put in a float.

Media Kit: Paul Raffa suggested creating a media kit with the calendar of events and a brochure to send out to organizations. Bill asked Paul to get a list together of what would need to be in this mailing; Carole will assist Paul with the letter.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting: Chairmen to meet with Board of Selectmen at the April 10, 2012 meeting.

Birthday Party: June 15, 2013 – 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Brian Ashmankas is looking at cutting back the birthday party as there are only a few members. Blackstone Valley Chorus and the High School Band are interested in participating in the main event at the Asa Waters Mansion. They are planning a cake contest; Carol Vultor and Catherine Elliot did one for the Lincoln Birthday celebration and are interested in helping. They want to keep the "chain of lights/first night" feel to it; it does not take a lot of volunteers for this. We would start at the mansion and branch out. YOU Inc is extremely interested in being involved, COA. We could involve the Town Hall and the Parks Commission for the Common. Library participation is still in talking stage. We are not decorating the mansion as it is too involved. BILL KANE – the MBC focus needs to be the Birthday Party.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Paul DiCicco said the Ice Cream Barn wants to use the bicentennial in its grand opening, which is in May or maybe June 11th. After discussion it was decided to not allow it unless they are making a donation. This should be brought to the executive committee.

Mary Lou Mulhane advised the committee that the Millbury Women's Club annual wine-tasting is March 31st and half of the proceeds are going to the Bicentennial Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Ron Marlborough, seconded by Rob Morton to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. **Motion** carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Ostrowski, Treasurer