

# TOWN OF MILLBURY MINUTES

Page 1 of 3 Pages

---

## Bicentennial Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, September 5, 2012

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Asa Waters Mansion, 123 Elm Street, Millbury

---

### Attendees

#### Committee Members

William Kane, Sr.

#### Present

Denise Marlborough

Cynthia Burr

E. Joseph McKeon

Carole Chiras

Robert Morton

Roger Derosiers

Mary Lou Mulhane

Jeffrey Dore

Paul Raffa

Chris Sinacola

Annie Gasco

Ron Marlborough

#### Committee Members Absent

Joyce Ostrowski

Peg Spang

Frank Gagliardi

Catherine Elliott

Karen Gagliardi

Carol Vulter

Armand White

Lynn Winston

David Cofske

Paul DiCicco

Jamie Rembiszewski

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

### Minutes

Minutes of Aug. 1 were taken up. Motion to approve by Denise, second by Annie. Unanimously approved without discussion.

Pass over Treasurer's report, as Joyce is unable to attend this evening.

### Committee reports

#### Finance/Fundraising

Winetasting event scheduled for Nov. 3, 7 to 9 p.m.; reminders and thank-yous have been sent out for the ongoing capital campaign, with the need to collect all pledges by March 31, 2013. A final solicitation to residents will be mailed with the tax bills. Coin sales have been going well, with antique silver sold out, about a dozen of the bronze sets and about 25 of the single silver sets remaining in stock. Rob asked that each member of the committee sell one of the remaining Vaillancourt commemorative Santa figures. Ray's True Value has sold just over \$4,200 of MBC commemorative items, with \$4,000 of that figure having been transferred to the MBC. Motion by Denise, second by Jeff, to approve \$600 for the winetasting event. Rob said expenses for this event typically come in much lower than that. Unanimously approved. Rob will check with Karen on the psychic fundraiser event.

## **Media**

Paul has been listing events on both the MBC website and Facebook page. There are just under 700 fans on Facebook. Paul is working on a ticket design for the sockhop, as well as promotional materials for the Revolutionary War re-enactment. Cindy recommended that everyone like and share the MBC page and events in order to raise the exposure and publicity for the events. Paul said 8.5x11 fliers are also being prepared and should be ready by week's end.

## **Events**

Paul said there is a schedule posted for the Revolutionary War re-enactment. There are at least 400 re-enactors planning to attend, beginning with an event for re-enactors Friday night at Stowe Farm; details of portable toilets, water supply, field reservations, road repair, and transportation are all process.

Letters have gone to all abutters and no objections have been received. Roger suggested a few committee members make phone calls to abutters to make sure there are no objections. Rob wondered whether with proper notice having been given, any last-minute objections would be a problem in any way. Roger said the point is more perception rather than any legal concerns. There was discussion of whether it is worth proceeding with calls and contacts to make sure there are no objections, or it would be better not to reach out any further. Joe said Roger's concern should be addressed and is willing to make calls. Carole said that personal contact is very well received, and is also willing to make calls. There are an estimated 40 or so families to be contacted.

Bill said that there will be need for many volunteers, perhaps 60 or more. The Boy Scouts have been contacted. Bill asked that committee members reach out to their friends and contacts to obtain as many volunteers for as many various jobs as possible, including set-up, parking, drivers, sales, tickets, and break-down following the encampment.

Cindy said there is an introductory meeting on Sep. 18 at Asa Waters for the MBC film festival. She and other committee members, once constituted, will present a preliminary budget.

Bill noted that preparations for the parade are continuing, with Mummers, Shriners, and various bands being lined up.

Brian Ashmankas reported on the town birthday celebration, which will be held from 1 to 7 p.m. at Asa Waters Mansion. A detailed itinerary will be forthcoming via email. There are subcommittees for a cake contest, publicity, various subsidiary events, display of working model of Thomas Blanchard's eccentric lathe; high school band and chorus will perform; 200 saplings will be sold so that families can plant and nurture those trees, dated to the bicentennial year. A special surprise guest will make an appearance toward the end of the event.

Next events committee meeting is 7 p.m. Sep. 13 at Asa Waters. Next birthday party committee meeting is 11 a.m. Sep. 13 at Asa Waters Mansion.

Cindy said committee for sockhop event on Oct. 13 has met and is about to send out a press release about the sockhop and car show, which latter event is Oct. 14. Ticket sales are under way.

## **History**

Carole said that history tours have been a huge success, with two buses on first tour, and three buses on the second tour, and full bookings for coming scheduled tours on Sep. 8 and in November. Tours will resume in April. Tours last about three hours and feedback has been very positive. Carole said the tours both share the history of West Millbury and promote all the

bicentennial events. And participants contribute anecdotes and information about the history of Millbury.

Carole and Roger met with teachers at the start of the school year about efforts to promote a local history curriculum in the schools. There will be information packets that will be distributed to each grade level. The Assumption School and McGrath Learning Center will be included. Hope is to enlighten students about their local history.

Historic cemetery tours will be conducted. Folks can simply show up and be led on a tour of Central Cemetery. Event is 4 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 27, with eight “spirits” located around the cemetery to tell their tales. This event is being organized by the Millbury Historical Society.

### **Old Business**

Roger thanked committee members who volunteered to staff the MBC booth at the recent firemen’s muster. Two canopies would have been useful, so the committee will seek to have two spaces for a setup at the upcoming block party, and will seek four volunteers to staff it. A letter was sent to the Fire Department apologizing for any misunderstanding about the sponsorship of the event, and understands that the letter was accepted without comment. Members were greeted upon arrival and the day went very well. Some sales were made, including plates, clothing, and raffle tickets for the quilt, and it was a good opportunity to gain publicity for the MBC.

Roger said a tentative date for an ecumenical service has been chosen. Rev. Cliff Davis at the Federated Church is leading the effort to organize other clergy in town for participation.

Roger spoke to the editor of the newspaper that serves 22 communities, including Millbury, Ohio, and learned that that town was started by Millbury, Massachusetts residents. Two were sent out to Ohio to get the railroads set up in that area. In the course of that work, a community was established. Millbury, Ohio today has fewer than 5,000 residents, but the mayor and others in town are willing to help our Millbury celebrate. One of the pioneers, George Hewitt, became the first postmaster in Millbury, Ohio, and later returned to Massachusetts.

Roger encouraged the committee to discuss ideas and possibilities to help Millbury, Ohio share in the bicentennial celebration.

### **New Business**

Volunteers were solicited for the block party on Sep. 15, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., in downtown Millbury. Bill reminded members of the Revolutionary War re-enactment event, wine tasting, sockhop and car show, and the need for many volunteers, particularly for the re-enactment.

Roger asked committee members to gather names of potential volunteers and bring those names to the next meeting.

Chris showed the 1913 Millbury centennial pennant that he purchased on behalf of the committee from an antique shop in Gloucester. He will have it framed. He asked committee members to think of possible marketing ideas for it. At the end of the bicentennial celebration, the pennant will be donated to the Millbury Historical Society’s museum.

Next Meeting slated for 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at Asa Waters Mansion.  
Motion to adjourn by Rob, seconded by Jeff, unanimously approved. Adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Submitted by  
Chris Sinacola  
September 6, 2012