

PRINCETON CENTER MINUTES – JUNE 19, 2008

Present: Gaile Rollins, Louise Dix, Jennifer Caswell, Jane Fife, Carl Lapoint, Nancy Ackerman, Terry Thompson

The meeting started with a discussion of the upcoming Farmer's Market here in the town of Princeton. Nancy, Jennifer and Jane were attending the meeting as representatives of the Agricultural Commission. It has been decided that the market will be held on the grounds of the Princeton Center starting Friday June 27th from 3 to 6 pm and continuing every Friday until October. 6 vendors have already committed to coming each week with more applying every day. The milk man from Barre needs to use an electrical outlet in the building and will pay for the usage. He has made this arrangement with every town he goes to with no trouble at all. The key will be available from the market coordinator to open the building if the bathroom facilities are needed by any of the vendors. They will not be open to the general public.

Gaile reported to the committee that the prisoners have been here. The Department of Public Works brought stone dust and the prisoners were supposed to spread it. Gaile also said she bought the same food which they have always eaten and Bobby Mason from the DPW didn't like it. He took it on himself to go to the Pizza Shop and bought food. The prisoners did spread the stone dust but haven't been back.

There are two new benches in the area for walking outside the back of the building. People will be able to walk part of the way and then stop to rest before going to the next part of the walk. It is hoped that the additional resting areas will give more people a chance to use the area.

Dorenda is leaving the Princeton Center. The newest tenant (Dawn) is moving upstairs to take her place on the second floor. The only thing she needs to do is replace the sink she took out of her area. This means the downstairs studio will be available for rent again.

The tenants received notice of the increase in rent starting the 1st of July. It was also noted that all tenants must pay all of their rent by the end of June. There can not be any carry over into the new fiscal year.

Louise reported the Center is working at a \$6,148.00 deficit this year. There is still \$2,000.00 owed to the center which will make it \$4,148.00. She also said that from November 12th to the present time it cost an average of \$3.02 a gallon for fuel for a total of 4,487.00 gallons at a cost of \$13,402.00. It is estimated the cost for next year will be \$4.75 gallon.

The Yoga and Historical Society need new insurance liability certificates.

Gaile checked with the oil company and the cost to install a cover for the thermostat would be \$183.00. The committee said to hold off until the next heating season.

Louise is still checking on the lock box.

Bill put a strip on the ramp in the kitchen area for safety reasons.

Gaile will put up notices regarding the rental space.

At this point in the meeting Mary Gunderson, Nancy Wheeler and Phil Mighdoll joined the committee for a discussion about the town's 250th celebration which is on October 20, 2009.

Louise called the meeting to discuss the Princeton Center listing of April for its part in the celebration. The Committee feels it would be a financial hardship for the building because of the need for additional heat, electricity, etc. The committee feels something would be better in June.

Phil said he had just put down dates for the different things and that no one had asked for any input yet. Phil thought all of the things such as Girl Scout Uniforms on display, dance recital, Reunion of Princeton School Graduates, etc. should be at the same time.

Phil also said that starting on New Year's Eve events would be scattered throughout the whole year. There will also be some scheduled with Westminster who are also celebrating their 250th. The first event will be at the Wachusett Mountain with special events, etc.

Some of the other things on the schedule are a commissioning service to be held in January at the First Congregational Church, followed though the year by the Book Lover's Ball, Snow Day, Skating Party at Norco, pancake breakfast, fireman's muster, Mountain Holiday Fair at Prince of Peace, Longjo race celebrating their 50th year, House and Garden Tour, Russell family BBQ reunion which will be open to the public, Town Fair and a Grand Finale event sometime in August.

Phil also mentioned no one has volunteered to set up a final parade. People are needed to help in all areas.

Cups, tee shirts, mugs, and sweatshirts are going to be offered for sale. Some of the other things that might be available will be a first day cover from the Post Office, Cat's Meow, cast metal ornaments, pewter or china plates, various items of apparel and teddy bears with tee shirts.

Carl said he would like to see some of the proceeds from the sale of these items be used to start the renovation of Bagg Hall.

It was also suggested a possibility of a golf tournament and a horse parade.

Phil told everyone the committee needs more members to work on all projects.

After much discussion, it was suggested that May 16th be the date for the Princeton Center to be on the schedule and all agreed. The Arts Society and the Historical Society will be notified of this date.

The next meeting will be on July 17, 2009 at 10:00 am.