

STRATHAM 300TH COMMITTEE

Minutes

May 16, 2011

Members in Attendance: Jeff Hyland, Chair, John Dold, Peter Wiggin, Flossie Wiggin, Chelsea Bailey, Jim Scamman, Pat Sapienza, Cathy Kenny, Liz Chisholm, Joyce Rowe, Susan Canada

Guests: Craig Brandon, Author; Dave Canada, Selectman; Becky Mitchell, Heritage Committee

1. Call To Order: Chairman Jeff Hyland called the meeting to order at 7:00.
2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the April 18 meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Flossie Wiggin, which was seconded by Pat Sapienza.
3. Town History: Author Craig Brandon met with the committee to discuss his proposal to write the continuation of the Town History. John Dold discussed the Scope of Work for the new book, which would, after a brief review of the old history, cover the years from 1900 to 2000. Mr. Brandon talked about his experience in writing this type book, and brought examples of his work to share with the committee. He also discussed the various publishing methods that are available. The "print on demand" style would be less costly, with the ability to print small quantities quickly. His philosophy in writing would be to tell a story, not a recitation of historical facts. He would depend on volunteers to do some of the research and would train them. We discussed sources of information, such as newspaper archives, interviews with local residents, resources at the Historical Society including pictures. He stressed the interest that local legends and town events, such as the Fair, and groups like the Fire Dept. would have.

We discussed estimated costs for this project. Using the "print on demand" process, the cost would be approximately \$1500 for 500 soft covered copies, \$3000 for hard covers. As few as 25 copies could be printed at a time; cost could increase depending on number of pictures and whether color or black and white. Mr. Brandon's fee would depend, in part, on how much information could be gathered by volunteers. It probably would be in the \$5000 to \$10,000. range with a down payment of \$2000. He suggested that we might include advertising to help defray the cost. He would be available to begin this fall.

Following his visit, the committee discussed Mr. Brandon's qualifications and enthusiasm for this project. A motion was made by Flossie and seconded by Joyce to approve Craig Brandon to write the Town History. Jeff will draft a letter to him and

also the Edward Rohan, the other candidate. Jeff will also meet with the Selectmen to discuss setting up a contract with Mr. Brandon.

4. Treasurer's Update: After paying \$850 to the winners of the Logo Contest, we have \$950 in the checkbook, plus \$4150. in the Town budget.
5. Timeline Subcommittee Update: This group will meet on June 7, and has been working on recommendations to bring to the full committee, particularly regarding the formation of a Parade Subcommittee.
6. Stratham Fair Participation: Liz has been attending Fair meetings. Our logo will appear on shirts for the Volunteers. Some members will meet with Vicky Avery on Friday, May 20 to further discuss our participation in the Town tent. The Fair committee will share proceeds of the Cow Flop Contest, in return for our help. We discussed the cost of a banner (\$85.) and items to sell or give away. Baseball caps, bumper stickers, grocery bags, travel mugs, Christmas ornaments were among the items discussed. Book marks were approved as low cost items to be given away.
7. Other business: There was a discussion about looking into the Glenn Miller Orchestra or the Air Force Band for a dinner dance. Also, a continued discussion of inviting heads of town departments and organizations to a luncheon to discuss their participation in 300th Events.
8. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 20 at 7:00.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.