

150th Anniversary Steering Committee

Thursday, May 6, 2021

Meeting Minutes

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
IN NEWINGTON, CT

2021 JUN -1 AM 9:34

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Francolino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.



Town Clerk

II. ROLL CALL

Robert Blank
Walter Brideaux
Kathleen Marie Clark
Bill DeMaio
Melanie Depamphilis
Joe Dubin
Diane Durant
Michael J. Fox
Eileen Francolino
Susan Gibbon
Jerilyn Nagel
Alison Manke (*arrived at 6:45 p.m.*)
Nancy Manke
Max Turgeon

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- None

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

V. REMARKS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

VI. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Random Acts of Kindness (M. Turgeon)

- Max suggested getting note cards and sending notes to neighbors, etc. Something for the fall; charge \$2 per note card.

B. Blood Drive (D. Durant)

- Diane stated that she contacted Joanne at the Red Cross we have tentative date of October 6, 2021. It will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church.
- Nancy Manke stated that she will take this over, since Diane is moving out of state.

C. Mayors' Ball- Fall 2021 (E. Francolino)

- Bill DeMaio stated that it's set for Friday, October 1. Up to 288 people. Looking for sponsor for Happy Hour, etc. First 150 ppl who sign up get name on wall in community center. Cost \$150 per couple if purchased by August 1st; after that \$180 per couple. Cost for individual tickets \$75 if purchased by August 1st; after that \$90. Don Woods stated he will sponsor \$500. Looking for caterer; want committee input. \$40 food, \$10 staff, \$20 for coffee/dessert - total \$60.
- Diane Durant asked if only Newington residents?
- Bill stated it's for "Newington enthusiasts". Presented press release to the committee for approval.
- Susan Gibbon asked how to purchase tickets.
- Bill stated that it would be through Parks & Rec. They've approved waiving rental fee.
- Michael Fox asked if the sponsors would get any permanent recognition.

- Bill stated that they will be mentioned on monitors, press release, notices. No permanent sponsor recognition in community center.
 - Jerilyn Nagel asked if we were planning on having a silent auction.
 - Bill stated that is a lot of work. Also cost for DJ.
 - Max Turgeon asked if someone wanted to be a sponsor, who should they contact?
 - Bill is looking for liquor sponsors as well.
 - Melanie Depamphilis is asking if this is formal dress? Worried about gym floor.
 - Bill stated they put “dress to impress”.
 - Eileen asked about the floors.
 - Bill stated all the chairs and tables have rubber feet and it should be ok.
 - Eileen asked about high heels.
 - Bill stated the hadn’t thought about that, need to give it some thought; maybe need a special dance floor.
 - Eileen stated that they put something on the floor at the high school. She will ask Chris Meyers about it.
 - Bill stated that may be something the committee can rent or borrow from the high school. I’ll have someone from my staff look into floor coverings.
 - Joe Dubin stated that a notice was in the Parks & Rec brochure.
 - Jerilyn Nagel stated that she is seeing Mark Janey tomorrow. Also, Cathy is writing an article for Newington Life about the historical walk.
 - Eileen suggested they contact Bill for information.
 - Melanie suggested adding the Newington 150th logo to the notice.
 - Eileen stated that she, Mel, Susan and Alison will be on the food selection committee. Will take time to meet with Bill.
 - Bill stated it is hard to get a sample buffet together.
 - Jerilyn suggested gluten free.
 - Susan stated that they will have something for everyone to eat.
 - Melanie suggested getting menus from area caterers to see what they offer.
 - Bill suggested putting together a menu, setting price, etc. Get RFP.
 - Susan suggested getting a variety of desserts from various entities in town; Alison thinks that’s a great idea.
 - Eileen stated that The Kakery made cupcakes for the historical walk. Dessert is a great thing to do as well.
 - Bill suggested contacting the Chamber to host a coffee station.
- D. Restock the Shelves-Spring 2021 (S. Gibbon)
- Susan stated that she contacted Pamela Wassik with Newington Human Services. Hold food drives in summer/fall - July - October. Towards the end of the month. Will contact Stop & Shop to see if we can hold event there.
 - Holiday Ornament/Sun Catchers - spoke with Bronners in Michigan. Thought a sun catcher would be more inclusive.
- E. Dinner in the Park-Summer 2021 (TBD)
- Eileen stated that this can be in conjunction with the Concerts in the Park on Thursdays.
 - Bill stated that everything Thursday, starting June 7th, concerts will be in the park. Want to have a cookout or have people bring their own food?
 - Eileen stated that people have their own table and have themes - Italian, Mexican, Halloween, etc.
- F. Historical House Tour/ History Day (C. Clark/J. Nagel)
- Eileen congratulated Cathy - it was a wonderful day; great job. Didn’t hear any negative feedback.
 - Cathy Clark stated that the estimate was between 250-300 people. Having article in Newington Life after the fact, unable to do ahead of time. Jerilyn and I are going through

many of the pictures to put into the May 28th edition of Newington Life. Each photo will have caption and people will be identified. Library had a good time. Historical Society got to show off some of their things.

- Eileen asked to have pictures sent to her to present to Council when events are over. Would like to print as many as possible.
- Cathy is putting all picture onto flash drive and will give that the Eileen.

G. Indian Hill (M. Turgeon)

- Max Turgeon stated that he talked to Wayne and we are all good. Newington Chamber is looking to do a tournament as well. Suggest that we collaborate with the Chamber on a golf tournament. Susan made a Save the Date flyer. Tuesday, August 24 is date; starting at noontime and segway into dinner.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Alison stated that the current balance is \$11,949.26. With additional checks it will be close to \$14-15 thousand.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Wreaths for the Falls

- Eileen thought that as part of the beautification of Newington, thought a wreath at the falls would be nice to do. Thoughts?
- Jerilyn asked what type of wreath.
- Eileen suggested something that would include artificial flowers.
- Cathy stated that we should consider that it would be in wedding photos. As a related idea, she suggested planting an oak tree someplace and something that will grow and will be sustainable.
- Jerilyn stated that the historical society planted a granddaughter of the Charter Oak a few years ago.
- Joe Dubin stated he is in favor of the wreath idea, just no idea on how big or how much we want to spend.
- Eileen stated that one in winter is approx. 2-3 feet in diameter. Anyone make them?
- Bill DeMaio stated is was an interesting thought brought up by Cathy. Never thought of that. Maybe make it so it's removable. Never got a complaint regarding the Christmas wreath; lots of compliments.
- Joe Dubin: ***Motion to spend up to \$500 for a spring/summer wreath to be placed on the bridge at Mill Pond Falls.*** Second by Michael Fox. Motion passes unanimously.

B. Explore Newington

- Eileen posted on Facebook yesterday. Game boards are available in the Parks & Rec office. Prizes will be awarded at the first June concert.

C. Communications-Monthly check in with Council

- Bill suggested mentioning the Explore Newington, Mayors Ball and wreath.

D. Extravaganza/Waterfall Festival

- Eileen stated one of the things we can see are raffle tickets for the quilt and painting. We met with the Schoolhouse Quilters and they gave us a quilt that is absolutely beautiful; they also made a table runner as well. Very generous donation by them.
- Bill stated that there are state rules about raffles.
- Jerilyn stated that the antique society has a loom and they mark scarves.
- Eileen stated that would be a nice idea for a prize.
- Mel Depamphilis stated that the City of New Britain Fire Department did a challenge coin; sold them for \$5 to city employees; and \$10 for everyone else. It's a very nice, detailed coin - approx. \$3.50 cost. Also, we can do a lapel pin or wine opener as well. Lapel pins are approx. the same price - \$2.44 for 50. Maybe do half & half?
- Eileen suggested that could be used as a favor at the Mayor's Ball.

- Bill suggested maybe getting chocolate bars; coin would be a nice favor.
 - Cathy Clark: *Motion to proceed with Coins and Lapel Pins.* Second by Joe Dubin. Motion passes unanimously.
 - Mel stated she will work on this but need ideas for the second side.
 - Cathy Clark stated that she suggested our committee send a letter to the New Britain 150th committee congratulating them.
 - Bill suggested having the committee chairs and Mayor's get together and exchange gifts.
 - Cathy stated that they are having a day or weekend in September over the Bee Bridge.
 - Eileen asked if the Waterfall Festival was still off.
- E. 150th Song ("*Living in Newington*")
- Eileen stated this song was sent to her by Town Attorney Ben Ancona. He's produced CDs and would like us to sell them with proceeds coming to committee. *Mayor and Town Manager fully support this. Eileen played the song for the committee.*
 - Jerilyn Nagel: *Motion to sell the CD's from Ben Ancona at the Extravaganza.* Second by Susan Gibbon. Motion passes unanimously.
- F. Something for the Kids
- Eileen stated that she talked to Tim Manke, maybe have a derby day, but that's too hard to do. Have a game day in the park? Maybe a race at the track at the high school.
 - Bill suggested Frisbee golf before a concert one night.
 - Jerilyn suggested having a chalk event. New mini golf as well.

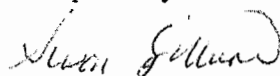
IX. REMARKS

- Eileen stated that she went to Garrett's Barbershop and they are willing to sponsor a beard contest. Have it go until December - have longest beard, etc.
- Jerilyn stated that the County of Tolland had a county wide tag sale and charged \$20 per person. People could make money and get rid of their stuff. Call it the 150th Tag Sale. Town doesn't charge any longer. Eileen asked Jerilyn to coordinate that. Paul Boutot stated that as a group the 150th can pull a permit and those participating will need to contact the police department letting them know.
- Bill asked if we would prefer having it called the "150th Anniversary Ball" instead. The committee all agreed and stated yes.
- Joe Dubin his suggestion for the back of the coin would be something that has to do with barrel staves; it can be an oak tree or stave itself, whatever. Mel asked for an image.
- Bill suggested the new town hall/community center.
- James Krupienski stated that he contacted the police department regarding the tag sale. There would be no charge to the committee for the permit, but anyone involved will need to contact the police department for a permit.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion by Susan Gibbon to adjourn. Second by Joe Dubin. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon

Secretary - 150th Anniversary Steering Committee