

## West Newbury Bicentennial Committee Minutes

April 18, 2017

The meeting was opened by KC Swallow at 7:03 PM. All committee members were present.

Nicole Francoeur, who worked on the project, provided copies of the Town of Weston's time line of events and budget for their 300<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in 2013. She also presented a draft of a proposed West Newbury Signature of Events Calendar including, for now, the ideas discussed at previous meetings. This week of events would be included in a larger, yearlong calendar of events sponsored by various groups. The actual events and budget for our celebration are a work in progress and this draft simply gives us a starting point for planning it.

KC Swallow said that our requests for funds from the West Newbury Town Meeting should be specific, well organized, and clearly justified and they should be presented at appropriate Town Meetings (Annual or Special). The current request for \$10,000 at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting will serve to introduce the topic of the 2019 birthday celebration. John McGrath volunteered to make a report for the committee at the Annual Town Meeting.

KC Swallow presented a draft of a letter to be sent by email to all entities in West Newbury that might be interested in participating in the celebration. Nicole, drawing from professional experience, suggested some changes that made the letter somewhat less specific. KC Swallow will make a second draft and send it to all members for comment. We agreed that all town committees, entities and groups should receive the email. It was also suggested that we contact Jennifer Solis to write a story for the Newburyport Daily news about our planning. We should also contact the offices of Lenny Mira and Bruce Tarr and later, the Governor's Office of Community Affairs to suggest that they participate in the festivities.

Mr. McGrath is still working on finding a fifth committee member from the elementary school system, identifying an artist to design a logo for the Bicentennial, and contacting town groups that he feels would be interested in preparing a "time capsule". These items will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

Meanwhile, Mr. McGrath had some new ideas: a float in the Memorial Day parade, "static displays" in the Hills House and library, Arts Council exhibits, expanded hours for the Hills House, and an Old Timer's baseball game. KC Swallow suggested a Fire Department muster. The committee enthusiastically approved of all of these ideas.

The Agenda for the next meeting will be as follows:

1. Resume discussion of the calendar and budget
2. Report on feedback from other committees
3. Report on the results of our Town Meeting warrant article
4. Identifying a fifth member for the committee

5. Report on logo and time capsule projects
6. Discussing finding a celebrity for the event