

West Newbury Bicentennial Committee Minutes

September 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the Second Floor Meeting Room. Committee members present: KC Swallow, Steve Swallow, Judy Gregg, Krystelle Griskiewicz.

The minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2019 were approved as submitted

New Business

Budget Update

The Treasurer, Judy Gregg, presented updated revenue and expense reports through June 30, 2019. The estimated balance in the account is \$23,465.13.

Presentation of Town Picture and Council on Aging quilt

The Bicentennial Committee and representatives from the Council on Aging will present the Town Picture and the Council on Aging quilt to the town at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on September 16.

Old Business

Closing Ceremony

Judy Gregg and Krystelle Griskiewicz met with representatives of the Garden Club and the Historic District Commission on Aug. 28 to discuss the burial of the time capsule on the Training Field. The Garden Club has had a generous bequest which they want to use to purchase and install a tree commemorating the Bicentennial on the Training field. It was suggested that the Bicentennial Committee collaborate with the Garden Club and the Historic District Commission to plan the closing ceremony at the Training Field where the time capsule could be buried and the tree presented at the same time. A good location for the tree and the time capsules was established and Kathy Mandeville from the Garden Club presented the proposal to plant the tree to the Board of Selectmen at their Sept. 3 meeting. The BOS approved the proposal. Judy Gregg will get confirmation from Peg Dunlap of the Historical Commission and Town Manager Angus Jennings that we have approval from the Historical Commission and Board of Selectmen to bury the time capsules on the Training Field.

A subsequent meeting on Sept. 4 was attended by Judy Gregg, Peg Duchemin, Dot Cavanaugh and KC Swallow to work out PR issues including our combined statement, goals, plans for the closing ceremony and event day speakers. A proposal to have a continuous slide show of Bicentennial event photos was enthusiastically received and it was suggested that the Bicentennial Committee produce a picture book of the Bicentennial events. KC Swallow will investigate the cost of a picture book.

The closing ceremony will begin at the Training Field at 1:30 on Oct. 20. Steve Swallow will ask the Town Manager to have the large logo from the parade installed on the Training Field on the morning of Oct. 20. We will bury the time capsules and the Garden Club will present the Bicentennial tree to the town. The speakers will be KC Swallow from the Bicentennial Committee and Kathy Mandeville from the

Garden Club. We will invite Lenny Mirra and Bruce Tarr to attend along with the Selectmen, but we will not ask them to give formal speeches (informal remarks are, of course, in order). After the ceremony we will adjourn to the Town Hall for a reception including cider and donuts, a continuous slide show of pictures from the various Bicentennial Events, and display of Bicentennial souvenir items for sale.

Judy Gregg presented suggestions for the memorial stone to be placed with the time capsules. The committee selected a black granite polished stone from Newburyport Memorial Art engraved with three lines: West Newbury, Bicentennial 2019, To be Excavated in 2069. The cost will be approximately \$500.

Letter to the Editor

The current draft of the letter to the editor starts with lists of individuals and then has a nice narrative about the many contributions to the success of the Bicentennial celebration. The committee felt that the lists were uninteresting and had already been published in the Commemorative Booklet. Given the elapsed time since the July event week we felt it would be better to eliminate the lists and use the narrative directly after the Closing Ceremony.

Mill Pond Table Project

Krystelle reported that the tables and benches have not yet been ordered and she is concerned that they will be delivered unassembled. There is also some question about the ability of the DPW to install the pads this fall. If we order them now and need to store them until spring, we should open the boxes to ensure that all the pieces are intact and undamaged and we need to locate a safe place to store them. She asked if we should wait until spring to place the order. KC was concerned that with all the talk of tariffs and trade wars the price might increase substantially. Krystell will contact the vendor to see if we could lock in the price.

KC reported that Ryan Goodwin, the Chair of the Mill Pond Committee presented the proposal for installation of the benches and tables at Mill Pond to the Conservation Commission at their Sept. 9 meeting. He had photos of existing conditions where concrete tables had previously been installed over a loose collection of cinder blocks and other rubble. He proposed that the same spots be excavated for placement of the new poured concrete pads. The Conservation Commission was receptive to the plans he presented and asked him to file the Request for Determination of Applicability as soon as possible. KC volunteered to help him with the forms.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 24.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, KC Swallow