

## West Newbury Bicentennial Committee Minutes

November 7, 2017

While the committee gathered for the meeting Steve Swallow talked informally about a Historical Commission Meeting which he sat in on. The Commission has won state funding to have all historical sites (including homes) surveyed. The results of this work, done by professionals, are due back to the State of Massachusetts by June, 2018. He also mentioned speaking with Deb Hamilton regarding participation in the bicentennial celebration by the West Newbury Riding and Driving Club. Deb is enthusiastic and will bring this issue before their next meeting.

The meeting was opened by KC Swallow at 6:12PM in the First Floor Hearing Room. All members of the committee were present.

The minutes of the Sept. 26, 2017, meeting were accepted as presented.

### **Old Business**

Reports on progress on Action items:

Steve Swallow reported that dates for the Signature Events have been changed to 7/7- 7/14, 2019

Krystelle Griskiewicz reported that she is working with all of the schools to design a time capsule and they are making progress.

KC Swallow reported that the Committee currently has \$20,000.00 from appropriations and a few donations in its budget. She spoke with Jen Solis who would be happy to interview the Committee and write an article in the Newburyport Daily News; KC suggested that the January meeting would be the best time to invite her.

Greg Garnache is planning to interview Pentucket's band director this Friday about their possible participation in a Second Line Band parade. Other suggestions for the band include the West Newbury School of Music (Zack Field) and Lark Madden. We are looking for horns, brass, tuba and drummers.

Greg has invited Jim Tingley to come to our December 19 meeting with some ideas in hand for a logo for the Bicentennial Celebration. It was agreed that having a Logo soon is a priority.

Greg also spoke with Jane Wild of the Historical Society. She is willing to attend the December 19 meeting to discuss ideas including the participation of the Historical Society in the celebration and a possible update to her book, "Images of America: West Newbury".

The Committee discussed the larger scope of the historical activities. We had earlier mentioned the possibility of expanded hours at Hills House, possibly with docents, and displays of historical materials at the library. Judy will work with the library to determine the location and cataloging of historical documents, brochures and books. She will also get more information on what sort of presentations are

being planned by the library. Steve learned at the Historical Commission Meeting that Susan Follensbee has passed away but her estate has a great deal of computerized historical records above and beyond what is published in the book published in 2009 with Jane Wild. Steve was vague, but he had also heard that the Historical Commission had done considerable work on historical plays and presentations about five years ago that have not yet come to fruition. Krystelle has contacted the history department at the high school and is making contact with Roxanne at the frame shop.

Cindy Lauter reported on her conversations with Ryan Goodwin of the Mill Pond Committee (MPC) and the Bicentennial Committee (WNBC) members' visit to Mill Pond. Mr. Goodwin mentioned the need for improved signage and trail maintenance and new picnic tables. The building at Mill Pond, however, appears to be an ideal place for a hoe-down party with country band. It is already ADA compliant and appears to be in very good condition. The entry to Mill Pond is small and not obviously visible from the road. A possible community project would be to work with the Department of Public Works to expand the entry way to promote safety and provide a new sign there highlighting the recreational and educational opportunities and programs. The students who visit make many discoveries that they can share as well. The expanded entry could include a small parking area for an automobile or two to stop and look at the sign.

### **New Business**

Nicole presented a professional and comprehensive "worst case scenario" budget for our planned activities. The discussion was extensive with regard to all that she was presenting. Nicole had many insights into the time frame and effort to get sponsors and having fundraisers etc. The effort to attract sponsors will have to be very significant and needs to begin now.

KC and Nicole emphasized the need to contact town departments such as Police, Fire, Public Works, etc. so that they can include added expenses in 2019 due to the celebration in their proposed budgets. This needs to be done before the April, 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

Nicole pointed out that other hidden expenses include but are not limited to liability insurance, usage fees, Police details, permit fees, legal fees, trash removal and extra expenses incurred by Parks and Recreation.

KC mentioned the probability of some resistance at Town Meeting and said that we need to ensure that monies being raised through tickets and sponsors are commensurate with the appropriation being requested from the town. Proponents of the Bicentennial Celebration should do their homework and attend town meeting in April, 2018.

### **Action Items:**

Steve

- Follow up on an appearance by John Cena
- Contact the Police and Fire Departments, the Department of Public Works, and Parks and Recreation about their participation and budget requests.

- Pass along the task of contacting possible bands for various events (Thomas Machine Band, Pentucket's Marching Band, Fife and Drum corps etc.) to another committee member more familiar with the West Newbury music scene.

Greg

- Invite Jane Wild to the Dec. 19 meeting
- Invite Jim Tingley to the Dec. 19 meeting to discuss logos
- Continue his effort to locate a Second Line Band

KC

- Speak to the Selectmen about liability insurance, permit fees, police details, trash pick-up and other hidden costs
- Discuss our worst-case scenario budget in context with our appropriation request at Annual Town Meeting and the budgets for previous celebrations.

Cindy

- Contact Zack Field about potential musicians for all of our events

Judy

- Attend the Chairperson Leadership Conference, on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the First Floor Hearing Room, 1910 Building.

Nicole

- Revise the Request for Funding application to two pages
- Attend the Chairperson Leadership Conference, on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the First Floor Hearing Room, 1910 Building.

Our next meeting will be on Tues., Dec. 19 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The agenda is:

Approval of minutes from last meeting

Old Business

- Reports on progress on Action Items
- Revise/refine budget based on new information

New Business

- Meet with Jim Tingley about designing a logo
- Meet with Jane Wild about Historical Committee participation

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.