

350th Anniversary Steering Committee

Sept. 7, 2023 – Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Stacy Bond, Lindsay McCarthy, Mary King, Pat Shearer, Martha Morse, Rhoda Yucavitch, Bruce Kahn, Joan Stoia, Steve Stoia; Magda Ponce-Castro attended via Zoom from 6:42 until 7:00 pm. Guests: Andrea Llamas, Norm Eggert, David McCarthy.

Called to order by Bond at 6:34 pm.

Citizen input: see Andrea's section of the Parade report.

8-10-23 minutes: Bruce moved and Lindsay seconded that the minutes from 8-10-23 be approved. Unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Lindsay reported that at this point 44% of our funds have been expended. Two large events, the parade and the fireworks, as well as several smaller ones are still to come. The budget is solid and there may be money to return to the town.

Merchandise: Lindsay recommended that some merchandise that is selling slowly be priced at 50% off starting immediately. The items are pottery plates and bowls, posters, buttons, and hats and bags. Feedback was positive. Joan asked if the sponsors should be given a plate or bowl and the committee agreed with this.

Parade: Stacy said that Magda has fostered great enthusiasm in the early stages of her role of parade coordinator but that execution of responsibilities and follow through on vital tasks has been lacking. Examples given were securing golf carts, porta potties, radios and organizing volunteer coordination, among others. Stacy regrettably recommended that Magda be removed as parade coordinator and another committee member be put in place. **MOTION:** Lindsay moved that Magda be relieved of her duties as parade coordinator immediately and that Stacy Bond be named as coordinator since she has been doing some of the work already. Bruce seconded. Rhoda AYE, Steve ABSTAIN, Joan AYE, Pat AYE, Martha AYE, Lindsay AYE, Mary AYE, Bruce AYE, Stacy AYE. The motion passed.

Andrea distributed two maps, of the staging area and the parade route. Parade float organizers are being sent info about where and when to register each float, then floats will be directed to the place to wait for their turn to enter. Traffic cones, no parking signs, volunteer snacks, and letters to homeowners along the streets where public parking will be allowed are in process, as well as many other details being ironed out. Our neighboring towns are responding to parade invitations, and elected officials will be present also. The state road closes at 12:30, parking areas are the library lot, elementary school lot and behind Community Bible's building. The committee thanked Andrea for her extensive help. Norm Eggert asked where he and 2 other photographers should be, where they could park etc. He also asked that anyone wanting specific photos to be taken to let him know. Martha as his 350th liaison will make sure the photographers have important details. Bruce asked that he have radio contact with the parade announcer Nathan L'Etoile, and the list of floats in order which Nate will be using to do commentary. Stacy mentioned that BNCTV, Tyler in our case, requested parade float background information also. Bruce asked that someone line up help carrying sound equipment; Joan offered to talk to the Junior Firefighters' advisor.