

350th Anniversary Steering Committee

January 5, 2023 – Four Star Brewery

Minutes (rev.)

Present: Stacy Bond, Lindsay McCarthy, Mary King, Pat Shearer, Martha Morse, Bruce Kahn, Joan Stoia, Steve Stoia, Magda Ponce-Castro, Alex Meisner, Rhoda Yucavitch. Guests: Norm Eggert, Doug Brown.

Called to order by Bond at 6:32 pm.

Citizen input: none. Doug attended as a volunteer, and Norm, our photographer, took photos.

11-3-22 minutes: Pat moved and Martha seconded that the minutes from 11-3-22 be approved. Unanimously passed. **12-1-22 notes** were reviewed but not voted on since there had been no quorum. The notes will be submitted to the Town Clerk to be part of the public record.

Chair's report: in acknowledgment of the hard work the 350th committee is doing, an anonymous donor provided small gifts to the committee members which Stacy handed out. Martha Morse is once again a member of the 350th Committee!

Treasurer's report: Lindsay reviewed the budget and the request for additional funding that will be presented to the Finance Committee soon. If approved by the 350 committee the additional ask is for \$11,980, in the History events category (\$1000), Parade (\$4230), Special projects (\$5250) and Community Outreach (\$1500). The Special projects include TreeFiftieth, Story of the Pipeline, and A Christmas Carol, which will be a final event of 2023. Merchandise sales are on track, so far grossing over \$7000. Magda said that the walkie-talkies needed for the parade cannot be borrowed for free, so an additional \$300-400 will be required that's not included in her budget request. Lindsay feels that we will be able to find that small amount elsewhere. Bruce made the **motion** to have the Treasurer and Chair request an additional \$11,980 from the town, Magda seconded and the members voted yes unanimously.

February 350th Kick-off update: First Light is still not communicating with us about what they may be planning for the afternoon of Saturday Feb. 18. Pat will approach them again. The children's history book from the 300th commemoration still has segments that are insensitive to indigenous history which, if removed, cause problems with the story line. Joan Stoia offered to work on it (she writes well and knows local history). The 350th webpage looks wonderful with great, colorful depictions of the two entertainers appearing on 2/18 at NES and a very attractive poster for the talk on Sunday 2/19 at Trinitarian about the Sokoki people – thank you Lindsay!

350th Dinner & Dance: the planners met by zoom with Lindsay, Stacy, Joan and Steve, and Mary. Corinne Fitzgerald and Bonnie L'Etoile want the go-ahead to keep planning. The venue is Beech House with music by a DJ, catered with food sourced from local farms as much as possible. The theme is local agriculture. A maximum of 150 people can be accommodated, and they will pay \$50 apiece. The 350th budget provides \$7000, and ticket sales, sponsorships and excellent prices on the venue and food will cover the rest of the estimated \$17,000 total cost for the event. It will be a fun occasion aimed at adults, and if there are people who can't afford the cost it is possible that 'dinner-ships' might be available (like scholarships). Steve mentioned that a speaker on the future of farming would be good, and Magda said that if funding is tight local businesses might donate a table as another way to raise money.

Piti Theatre/NES and Tree Fiftieth update: Piti Theater did not receive the large grant from the state's Mass Cultural Council. Their project with the NES is very exciting and popular, and the \$5000 in a local citizen's donation is still there. The Stoias will take this project on and be in contact with Piti, Kellee Davis and our donor to see what can be accomplished. Money to give a base of support to the Tree Fiftieth project is requested in the final town budget ask.

Merchandise/Sales 350th Anniversary Goods update: the Northfield Doors poster is beautiful. Joan said Cate Woolner took many of the photos, and Carol Pike took two. The price will be \$16.95 each, and after 69 are sold we will have made up costs. A QR code on the posters will take the buyer to our website where short descriptions of the houses will reside. Distribution will be through Adrias, the Centennial House, and Fiddlehead's Gallery. A reception and autograph party will take place at Centennial House as a fun gathering and opportunity to sell the poster.

Golf tournament: no action.

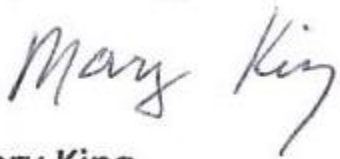
Open Focus Group Discussion: Pat listed many other events that will be taking place for families and children with the hope of offering one a month during the months of seasonable weather. May Pole, bike day, ice cream event, Police & Firemen tug of war, an outdoor movie...there are many opportunities. Bruce asked that anyone needing the new sound system contact him as soon as you know the details of your event. Alex posted on Nextdoor about the automobile division of the parade, seeking interested parties, and is getting an excellent response. He anticipates ~ 25 automobiles. Magda said that we have been invited to participate in Deerfield's 350th parade in June, and it will be a great promotional opportunity. Mags also said that since the parade is one of the last 350th events she is counting on the committee to volunteer to make it a success on the day. She needs many volunteers. QUESTIONS: will we invite Deerfield to our parade? If we are attending, who is taking charge of creating our float for the Deerfield parade?

Northfield's 400th: is envisioned to be a facilitated discussion held before the holiday season in 2023 to answer the question "what did the residents of Northfield learn in 2023, and how did they apply that learning to create a more economically viable, connected and resilient community"? Topics will be gleaned from a residents' survey, and at this point no costs are associated with this community conversation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Magda, unanimous.

Next meeting: Thurs., Feb. 2, 2023. 6:30 Town Hall.

Respectfully,



Mary King