

Approved June 1st
Stacy Bond

350th Anniversary Steering Committee

May 4, 2023 – Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Stacy Bond, Lindsay McCarthy, Mary King, Pat Shearer, Alex Meisner, Martha Morse, Magda Ponce-Castro, Bruce Kahn, Joan Stoia, Rhoda Yucavitch, Steve Stoia. Guests: Patter Field, Andrew Vernon.

Called to order by Bond at 6:30 pm.

Citizen input: Community BBQ update: Patter Field reported on the free community barbecue at Trinitarian on June 10. Sittings will be at 4:30 and 5:30, and registrations are not being taken. Permitting is all set, 2 constables have been lined up, and there is food for 400 so we want a great turnout. A basket for donations will be set up but no 350th financial support is sought. Patter requests volunteer help on the day and promotion of the event in the days leading to it ("*Bring your own chair,*" "*Donations gratefully accepted*"). If children's activities can be provided, that is a plus. The food is being made in the commercial kitchen at TCC, with some food provided by the Community Meals organization. 350th Town Paddle: Andrew Vernon sought advice on a kayak/canoe paddle on the Connecticut River on Tuesday nights over the summer. Liability issues were discussed especially if the boats are provided, and Andrew will check into how to avoid/deal with liability. The committee is grateful to Andrew for this idea and his organization of it, and once it is set up, he will report back so 350th promotion can begin.

4-6-23 minutes: Bruce moved and Martha seconded that the minutes from 4-6-23 be approved. Unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Lindsay reported that the Saint Patrick's Guild wants to sell chocolates in honor of Northfield's 350th anniversary. There is no use of the 350th logo, so there is no problem with this side commemoration by the church. Also, at annual town meeting the additional \$11,000 requested was approved for the 350th commemoration.

Merchandise sales table: pottery and other commemorative merchandise sales have remained slower than expected; there will likely be extra merchandise at the end of 2023 and committee decisions to be made about what to do with them. Stacy noted that the committee has searched for a volunteer to coordinate sales of merchandise, and that with the lack of a volunteer Lindsay has been filling this role. Stacy moved and Bruce seconded that Lindsay be named Merchandise Coordinator and have the responsibilities associated with it. Discussion included Steve's statement that he and Joan are glad to help if needed. The motion that Lindsay be named Merchandise Coordinator passed unanimously.

Richard Little talk and walk: retired GCC professor Richard Little will talk about the geological history of Northfield on August 25 and lead a walk on October 21. Pat is willing to coordinate these events with the Kids and Family group...thank you Pat!

Piti Theatre/NES: conversations between the school and Jonathan Mirin continue toward a fall program.

Parade: Magda still hears from people that her email address is wrong on some 350th sites or documents. Correct email is northfield350parade@outlook.com. Magda distributed a handout summarizing the activities and key people working on the parade. She is working very hard to find more key people, the anchors of the parade. The parade needs announcers and Michael Humphries, Bobby C and George Miller were suggested. A second photographer is needed; Martha will ask Norm Eggert for suggestions. Photos by the public will also be welcomed. Juli of Northeast Paving is a great volunteer, and Mags was reminded that Linda Ackerman from another sponsoring business, Greenfield Savings Bank, wants to volunteer. Alex should plan on rolling out 25 antique cars. He requested a radio, Mags said he will have walkie talkies. He needs to be in radio contact with other drivers. He requested that Mags send him the pdfs of the parade form. The question arose about inviting other neighboring towns selectboards, firemen etc to be in the parade, and who is handling this? Bruce expressed a sense of urgency as we are one month out from the parade entry deadline (June 15). Mags will be meeting with the Stoias to plan

Recorder publicity. At this point only one band, Pioneer's, is lined up, plus the TAC choral group; several on the committee see this as a problem. Steve offered to call area marching bands. Mags also asked where the money that is coming in from businesses who are paying a fee to be in the parade is going, and she requested that it be added to the parade's funds. Magda asks for the committee's ideas and help.

Chair's report: 2 library programs on Abijah Prince and the history of Northfield Seminary were great. TreeFiftieth is raising money, and Norm is in the budget for a stipend. The 350th has been asked by Jinx and Howard Hastings if we can support the purchase of the ceramic model Chateau, if the library can provide space for it. Mary will report back to Jinx the summary of our discussions -- \$5000 seems pricey, we support having it reside in town, we have no budget for it now but should we have extra money closer to the end of our commemoration, we would vote to help financially according to our means at the time. The suggestion that a donation box be placed near the Chateau when it is exhibited at Fiddleheads was made.

Open Focus Group Discussion: Kids & Families: Pat asked if a "tractor round-up" in October meets the committee's approval, and the committee agreed it would be a good agricultural addition. **Entertainment:** Bruce asked if the Town had stated whether we can run a tab at the Brewery as payment for musicians, and the answer is that we cannot use town money directly for alcohol. Lindsay reminded everyone of the need to have a W-9 filled out by anyone who will be paid, and that the Town's tax I.D. must be given to businesses we are dealing with also. The town does not pay taxes.

Fireworks: insurance is complicated but moving ahead.

Dinner/dance: tickets are sold out.

Golf tournament: there is a lot of excitement!

Time capsule: the 1973 capsule has not been found but efforts continue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Martha, unanimous.

Next meeting: Thurs., June 1, 6:30 Town Hall.

Respectfully,

Mary King