

350th Anniversary Coordinating Committee

Sept. 2, 2021, Trinitarian

Minutes

Members Present: Stacy Bond, Bill McGee, Lindsay McCarthy, Joan Stoia, Steve Stoia, Martha Morse, Brian Brault, Rhoda Yucavitch, Susan Ross, Mary King. **Not present:** Pat Shearer, Alex Meisner, Christine Harris, Carol O'Brien. **Volunteers:** Bruce Kahn, Magda Ponce-Castro, Mary Key, Scott Key, June Moran.

Call to Order: 6:30 Bond. **Minutes** 8/5/21 passed unanimously as amended, motion Brault second Morse.

Treasurer's report: attendees were asked to update their email addresses and committee assignments on a sheet passed around. McCarthy and Brault reported that Google Drive has been set up with subfolders for focus groups, minutes etc. Bond, McCarthy and Brault will have edit access, others read-only access or limited edit for specific purposes (King to add meeting minutes to the drive, for example). An invitation to Google Drive will automatically be generated, McCarthy and Brault can offer training for editors if it is needed. Either one is available to field questions.

Focus Group reports:

Community engagement: S. Stoia talked about radio spots and how expensive they are. He will price underwriting a local NPR station for an option in addition to WRSI, to reach a variety of listeners.

Programming:

- **Parade:** McGee will meet with the VFW on 9/10/2021 to get them on board, Brault will attend with him. Dave Quinn of the Fire Dept. has said he is on board too, and they will be looking for "elders" who were present at the last anniversary commemoration in 1973.
- **Historical:** King said the History Focus group will write up Mr. Moody and perhaps two other Moody era notables, Elijah Dickinson who built the library, and Calvin Swan, with the understanding that not all of them can be part of the Northfield Minute project. Also under consideration are book discussions and speakers (Lisa Brooks), a music program or series (shape notes, sacred music, Unitarian historic organ concert, etc.) and something on the historic markers and monuments in Northfield that will frame them for understanding the times in which they were erected and by what groups, since some are culturally insensitive to today's viewer. McGee said that JoAnne McGee is looking for an actor to "play" Swan. C.S. Lewis Study Center and Moody Center in their ongoing events will sponsor programs that are especially relevant to the Northfield anniversary during 2023 also.
- **Kids programming:** no report.

- **Entertainment:** Kahn is trying to add members to this focus group. He suggested a Kids Tent with storytellers from the Valley, on which he'd work with Yucavitch and Shearer. Kahn mentioned that some focus groups have overlapping areas of interest (music program that's historical and entertaining too) and that we need to communicate with each other to prevent redundant efforts. He said that some businesses may be more interested in underwriting entertainment events, Signature Sounds for example. Kahn also emphasized that while local artists might be willing to donate their time and talent to the 350th, we should definitely pay outside artists.
- **Agriculture:** Bond said that Nathan L'Etoile is not able to coordinate this focus group, but she will work to keep him available for advice and limited projects.
- **Religious Heritage:** still no coordinator. Ponce-Castro said that asking the person we are trying to recruit what their interests are and emphasizing some smaller part of our needs that their talents seem to match is a way to get their help, rather than approaching them to be a Coordinator. Heather Tower, Patter Field, Ted Thornton might be able to help, and Morse offered to talk to them.

List of town groups: the letter of information and invitation to participate, on stationery with logo, will be emailed in October by Morse and Bond. Notification to groups outside Northfield will go out later.

Website update: it is up but do not share yet, it is in very basic form at this point.

www.northfield350.org Ponce-Castro suggested an IT person who works with her husband, inexpensive, who could dress it up a bit. Kahn offered to take photos, Ponce-Castro suggested pics of Northfield "then and now".

New, unanticipated business: Doors of Northfield: J. Stoia presented a project for funding consideration, and reviewed the project planner form. The Doors of Northfield project would fund posters with photos (Cate Woolner) of town doors of historic significance or particular beauty or uniqueness, to be sold to benefit the 350th commemoration at a project cost of \$1073.00, passed with one abstention (Joan Stoia), motion by Morse, second by Yucavitch. Discussion of the project planner form, which will be used by all persons seeking money for a 350th event or product, yielded the suggestions that the form have a place for the project planner title, it should allow for 50 words of description, answers to form questions should appear in **bold**, and it must be able to be filled out and submitted online.

Next agenda, item: the process to be used for funding commemoration projects: submission, budgeting, approval.

Next meeting: Thursday October 7, 6:30, Trinitarian.

Adjourned at 8:00, motion by McGee, second by Brault, unanimous.

Respectfully,

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