

Ashburnham 250th Celebration Committee
Minutes of November 21, 2013 Meeting

Present: Steve Coswell, Chair; Pat Frederick, Secretary; Patty Johnson, Treasurer; Members: Susan Brennan, Tyna Donelson, and Bob Fichtel

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Secretary's report for October 17th was accepted as written.

Treasurer Patty distributed copies of her report, also accepted as written. The meat raffle was a highly successful fundraiser; the Committee grossed \$3,193., with a profit of \$1,237.40. Most attendees were from out of town. The Turnpike Rod and Gun Club members were delighted with the turnout, and were very helpful in running the raffle.

Both the Athol Savings Bank and the GFA Credit Union have expressed interest in being major sponsors of the Celebration. The Committee discussed ways of ensuring that both financial institutions receive equal recognition for their anticipated sponsorship. Perhaps one can be Premier Sponsor of the Parade; the other, Premier Sponsor of the Fireworks show.

Steve will ask the Town officials *when* they plan to release trust fund moneys given specifically for the 250th Celebration, so the Committee can plan accordingly.

Steve will also be meeting with Joseph McPeak at Cushing Academy, to discuss ways for the school to be involved with Celebration events and activities. Cushing has bought two light pole banners and is selling Schoolboy statuettes. The school should have a delegate to our upcoming parade planning meeting.

The Committee discussed venues for selling more Schoolboy statuettes, especially considering the possibility that people might want to give them as Christmas presents. Perhaps we could have a table outside the Post Office on a Saturday morning. We should also advertise them on the town's FaceBook page, on local cable TV, in school and church newsletters.

We need to speak to Stan Herriott at the Light Department about installing brackets on the light poles to hold the banners.

Bob suggested we contact Cumberland Farms and Family Pharmacy about permitting 250th Celebration murals on their white exterior walls.

The proposed Firemen's Muster would require us to supply porta-potties and resin paper. (The paper is for measuring how far each crew is able to pump their stream of water.) Estimated expenses, about \$2,000.

There will be a special Parade planning meeting in the Malcolm Stewart room on Dec. 5th at 7:00 PM. A subcommittee will be established, and a theme for the parade decided upon.

Possible Parade theme suggestions include: Ashburnham, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow; Land of Many Lakes; and Ashburnham Through the Years. Perhaps we should invite

suggestions from kids at the local schools, or give Spring Town Meeting attendees a choice of themes to vote on.

Steve proposed a fundraising Winter Weekend at the Turnpike Rod and Gun Club, including a dance, Friday evening, a sliding party, Saturday, and an Ice-Fishing Derby, Sunday. Perhaps the Lions Club and the Parks and Recreation Committee would be interested in helping with logistics, if we help plan the events. Bob will attend a Parks & Rec. meeting to introduce these ideas.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. The next meeting will be the special Parade Planning meeting December 5th at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia H. Frederick

Patricia H. Frederick, Secretary