

MINUTES

**SESTERCENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024
WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM
ONLINE NON-INTERACTIVE ON TOWN HALL STREAMS
5:00 p.m.**

NOTE: This meeting took place on/around the Common. No Town Hall Streams recording.

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** at 5:00 p.m. by Argy Nestor.
- 2. 5:00 p.m. Deliver Sestercentennial announcement to homes**

Almost 100 notices were delivered.

- Common Road from 131 to fairgrounds
- Depot Street to Ayer Hill
- Town House Road to Rt. 17

- 3. Dinner on bandstand (committee)**
- 4. Approve July 8, 2024 minutes:**

Motion by: Keith Siegel
2nd by: Norma Hunt
Approved, unanimous

- 5. Updates from all committee members:**

Re: merchandise, Holly Savage got Square up and going for UHS, separated into two different groups (Sestercentennial and UHS). She started doing inventory and will have two POS systems which have to be kept separate. Square may be able to be accepted for Sester stuff at the fairgrounds. It will keep track of the money and have a report at the end. Holly will train, and Martha said there will be a sheet.

Argy said there will be a notebook at the table for those kinds of things. Holly said if all else fails do it by paper.

Martha will bring merchandise in each day, take it home each day, and do an inventory. At the end of each day people will put the cash they have in a bag. The new people will start off with X dollars in the bag.

Sestercentennial Committee Minutes – July 15, 2024

Tracy said Bruce will get money for the cash bags to start with. He will cash out each night and take the money to the historical society, which is secure. He will be doing this with Jeff.

Argy clarified Sester and UHS transactions would have to be separate. Holly listed the purchasing options for Square.

Martha said she just sold a bunch of merchandise. She had 150 to 175 t-shirts to start with and is concerned about running out. People can order online. She is splitting up what she has between the Common and the fairgrounds.

Argy said they now have Scott's side by side and she has the key. It can go 800 yards on the road.

Tracy brought up online ordering. She confirmed you pay tax online. Sonja ordered a tote bag last week, and they said it would be ready July 31. Martha has four tote bags to show people. Martha said probably Adventure Advertising will have a check for the historical society when we close out the store, in answer to Tracy who also mentioned tax.

Tracy said our book is 50 years looking back, theirs (UHS) is 200 the bicentennial.

Martha said the volunteer t-shirts are done. Committee ones should be next, then the rest to sell. She talked about transporting and set up of merchandise. She said UHS shirts will also be green.

Keith asked about a press release this week or if we're relying on the full page ad. A suggested topic was the different events of the historical society. Cindy brought up road closures and parking as a helpful topic. Sonja got several questions about that when she gave out her letters. Argy said that info can go out via press release, radio (Cindy will try), and being clear when we talk to people. She added it has not been finalized what time and what part of this road will be closed. It will be finalized tomorrow night. Martha suggested writing something up for the town website. [Crosstalk]

Tracy said the Common Road is also part of the state road. Buddy will come to the select board meeting. "Local traffic only" signs were mentioned, and the lack of them.

Argy said she heard from many people following the press release on music. Her thought was one on the historical society could get a similar reaction. Keith said it could also mention Corporal Cobb, which has not been covered.

Keith has been in pretty constant contact with Christine Simmonds. He would like to let her know exactly where she'll be, following this meeting. She will bring her own chairs.

Tracy said Corporal Cobb is moving in front of Alan Heath's house. Argy said that will be helpful for outlets.

Sestercentennial Committee Minutes – July 15, 2024

Various locations and parking/shuttle were discussed. Cindy said we should carpool. Argy said know who you're blocking in. The shuttle would be ideal. She added Janice will park at the church.

Cindy said all the signs are done. She will write a press release on UHS events, and Keith will send it out tomorrow. She and Ruth Ann will put signs up at the fairgrounds on Friday maybe after plants, etc. She did not attend the emergency meeting but had made a map of road signs (Common Road, parking, no parking, directional). Argy said put them where you think they should go.

Cindy said there are traffic/directional signs that will go up on Thursday. Consensus was sponsor signs will go up Thursday morning. We wanted to be conscientious about the grass mowing. Where to put sponsor signs was discussed, with Cindy suggesting they all be together so no one misses out on their sign being seen. At the end sponsors can take their signs and put them in their windows. There are 20-21 double-sided signs. Consensus was the sponsorship signs will line the Common Road.

Norma briefly went over traditional arts (power, water).

Ruth Ann went over vendors including Reggie's (two trucks) and Family Café on the fairgrounds. Argy said the merchandise will be by the bus stop near the Matthews Museum. Ruth Ann said we have lots of stuffies, more coming in. Cords were discussed. She said the Blueberry Queen needs three cars, no masking tape, which was a little glitch.

Martha asked about a specific place to charge cell phones. Tracy and others will bring portable battery packs. Argy confirmed the walkie talkies are for the whole weekend (six of them). Tracy said they have six batteries. Her thought was they would be specific to a location not to a person.

Ruth Ann asked about popcorn, which was briefly discussed. Martha said she is going to Sam's Club tomorrow and will get two big bags of kernels and a half gallon of oil. Tracy will get salt and topping stuff at Walmart. Ashley ordered bags to put popcorn in, which we have.

In answer to Martha, Argy said there will be no place to take a break. Water in giant containers will be available at the information desk. There will be cups or bring water bottles.

Argy said the soda and water donated by Pepsi will be for sale at \$1 a container. It will go into the system.

Keith asked about picking up trash. Consensus was it will be done as people walk around, and trash bags will be changed out. There will be recycling. (It's in the minutes, page 11.)

Sestercentennial Committee Minutes – July 15, 2024

Martha brought up balloons. She could do some for Janice. She has helium and will do clusters tied together.

Norma brought up discouraging people to bring dogs (crowd, kids, allergies, etc.). Argy brought up 20th Maine shooting in light of Saturday (Trump rally shooting). Brief discussion followed.

Motion that the 20th Maine is allowed to carry on every aspect of their traditions, and in the parade they only shoot off once and it's in front of the filming stage by: Norma Hunt
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

They will be shooting on the Common, at the fairgrounds, and once during the parade in front of the filming stage.

Above motion passed,
5-2-1 abstention

It was agreed that there will be a couple of announcements with the megaphone. There is a "loud noise" warning in the pocket guide.

Martha brought up sheriff's coverage. Argy said Jay put in a request; they then put the call out. At this point one sheriff is interested and has come forward. We are not sure about getting two. Our best hope is two Friday night, one for Saturday and one for Sunday. We have to wait and see.

Tracy said they're giving out the walkie talkies on Thursday. She will take them from Jay and record a spreadsheet of each serial number. She will charge and lock them up either at home or Robbins House.

6. Walk about Common so everyone knows what's happening where

7. Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary