

## MINUTES

### SESTERCENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM

ONLINE NON-INTERACTIVE ON TOWN HALL STREAMS

6:00 p.m.

**Committee members present:** Ruth Ann Senff-Wiemer, Cindy Wright, Argy Nestor, Martha Johnston-Nash (Select Board Rep), Tracy Weed, Norma Hunt

**Others present:** Bob Oxton

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** at 6:07 p.m. by Argy Nestor
2. **Approve April 15, 2024 minutes:**

Motion to accept them as presented by: Tracy Weed

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Norma Hunt

6-0

Argy brought up on page 3 the mention of Ruth Ann waiting to hear from the American Legion and Shriners. Ruth Ann said she has heard from the American Legion but not yet the Shriners and will give them a call.

3. **Funding, budget, sponsorships:**

Re: coins, Tracy provided a spreadsheet that she came up with for tracking coin sales. She said they have been a hot item. She noted she dropped them off at the historical society on Wednesday morning, and they sold 15 by end of Friday. There had been a lot of interest on the Facebook page about where to buy them; the canned message has been we will have them at the Bicentennial movie this Wednesday night, any of our pop-ups, and the weekend of the event. They are limited. We ordered 200 to start with.

Argy said closer to pop-ups, we will put all of the scheduled events up so people can know where they can purchase the coins. They will continue to be at the historical society Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Tracy offered to give committee members coins to sell. Martha said they can add the coins to the online store as well.

Re: budget, Tracy said they had a family get together and donate to cover sponsorship for all of the children's activities. All funds promised for the beard contest have been received, so that event is covered. Sennebec Farm Weddings and Events donated \$250.

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Somebody bought coins and added \$50 general donation. Dead River committed to sponsoring the Midcoast Community Band in the parade. Argy added they will let us know ASAP if they can put a truck in the parade.

Re: need to work on, Argy said the rental shuttle bus will be \$1,250 and four porta potties \$570.

Motion to pay for the shuttle bus and the porta potties out of the town funds by: Norma Hunt  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Cindy Wright

Martha confirmed the total would be \$1,250 plus \$570.

Argy said the fairgrounds is charging us \$1,957.50. Per an email from Mike Drickey, the park is free with picnic tables at no additional cost, but if it rains, the exhibition hall will cost \$200 to go inside. Martha brought up using the cubbies inside for ancestry regardless, which Argy confirmed would cost \$200. Martha said she had some money in the budget for water, charts, etc. and it would be well worth it to use it to rent the building and try to get water donated. Argy said that would be \$2,157.50.

In answer to Martha, Argy gave a rundown on what was previously voted on: bagpipes \$1,000, film \$4,000, \$125 walkie talkies, \$100 logo digitization, \$475 dumpster and trash bags. She said the total of all of it is \$9,695.

In answer to Tracy, Martha said people have said they are coming to it. Tracy mentioned having people commit to it. Martha noted they are bringing their own food, and the ancestry will be of more interest; 19 of the founders will be represented in the stalls. Tracy was wondering about the ROI. Martha said it is not exclusive in terms of who can come look at the charts and go to the picnic; the only ones with the lineage tracking will be the original 19. Tracy framed it as a traditional picnic with an exhibit of the descendants. Argy suggested tabling the fairgrounds conversation, and Martha in the next two weeks will gather more info on the numbers, etc. Martha said you're really not going to know and reiterated she's got \$200 in the budget. She added it's a value to the town, and the historical society is very interested in it.

In answer to Norma, Martha said she and the historical society are putting together the booths and information for each founding father.

Argy emailed Mike and said the fairgrounds could be a little bit less than \$2,157.50. She said will have \$305 left in the town funds after this.

Tracy was formulating a motion to move forward with submitting invoices to the town for approval for payment on funds for the fairgrounds with a maximum of \$2,157.50, shuttle bus (Luce's Transportation) for \$1,250, and porta potties when discussion ensued on the previous motion.

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Motion to forward the invoices to the town for approval – fairgrounds for a maximum amount of \$2,157.50, Luce’s bus invoice for transportation which is \$1,250, and Handy porta potties for \$575 by: Tracy Weed

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Ruth Ann Wiemer

6-0

Argy said we have \$305 left in that account (town funds). She asked for ideas on how to use it. Martha reminded it must be used before June 30 due to the town fiscal year. Ruth Ann suggested signs. Tracy brought up a savings bond or something in the time capsule left from the Bicentennial, and doing a similar thing for 2074 or approaching banks for such funds. Consensus was good idea, and we also need signs and posters. Argy thought they left \$100 in the time capsule. Cindy mentioned bitcoin, contingency funds, and tabling the discussion. Consensus was wait.

#### 4. Updates from Committee Members:

Re: parade, Ruth Ann said we are up to 47 entries, and a lot of those are groups. Currently the end of the parade is kids on bikes followed by Jesse and the fire truck.

Bob Oxton offered to help set up the parade, know exactly where everything is going to be, everything leaves, and then he follows it with the lobster (driving it). Ruth Ann confirmed he is #47 entry. Bob confirmed the parade date is July 20 at 11:00 a.m.

Ruth Ann said the road closure committee, which Pat Hood is on, got together. Next week they will do a temporary layout of the parade at the TCC. She invited Bob to join them and will get him info.

In answer to Bob, she said the parade route is starting at the TCC, taking a left at the post office, and going up the new exit to the fairgrounds is the new end point. Tracy provided rationale for this route which has more area to watch the parade from than previous routes. Bob confirmed there will be no bleachers. Argy said we may have a reviewing stand but not in a space that will interfere with the parade – on the grass at the corner, perhaps across from the post office or in front of Butler, Maxcy, & Heath for perhaps some of our elderly population and/or MC. Tracy said Charlie Crockett who is filming it would like somebody with him who could point out “make sure you get this person, this is important,” etc.

Referring to the Lobster Festival judge’s stand, Bob said that happens to be his trailer with a bunting around it, etc. He set Charlie up in the front of it so he is higher. In answer to Argy, he said that trailer is available. Tracy suggested setting it up in front of Stan and Bob’s daughter Bobbi’s lawn who live on the parade route; Charlie would be able to film oncoming.

In answer to Bob, Ruth Ann said she got in touch with Rosey Gerry but he knows nothing about the submarine float. Bob said he is the one with the long flat truck that you put the

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chairs on for the veterans. Ruth Ann said we have a veterans float. Tracy said Greg Grotton told her he was not going to be able to do it, which Ruth Ann did not know. Bob added that Rosey Gerry's trailer is low, convenient for veterans to get on and off, and he drives it himself. Bob will check with Rosey and Greg and give Ruth Ann a call.

Re: stuffies, Ruth Ann said Kristin is making one. The stitch group will take over, and Kristin will let her know if we need to do a call out for yarn. She will call Rachel to see how many she has made.

Re: traditional arts, Norma said she got hold of the Jesse and Norman Casas from Washington who do granite and are happy to participate. They will let her know if they need anything. She will update the form. She had no luck with the chair caner; Cindy's could do Friday but not Saturday, and she will see if the historical society would be interested in having her out there then. Cindy will follow up on Mary Sabins felting. Norma will get hold of June about knitters. Argy said tatters are all set. Norma will get hold of Chris deGrof and will call Frank T. (one hour only) to see what hour he would like to be there, and if they need anything.

Re: Enter the Haggis (free concert on Friday night at the fairgrounds), Tracy said the concert is fully sponsored. There was discussion about moving it to the Common, but it will stay at the fairgrounds. Start time will be 7:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m., ending at 9:00 p.m. Publicity will start as soon as the sponsor's official wording is finalized.

Re: book, Tracy said the historical society meets this Friday, and it is coming together. They broke up into a subcommittee at the historical society. Several took different sections, and Jay authored some of the town stuff, so they have that as a very rough draft. The biggest part to fill in now is pictures from the Bicentennial, Common changes over the years, etc. Hawes family and Hawes Farm are the sponsors. A historical society committee member will edit and proof. Lincoln County Publishing will print the book. They only need two weeks turnaround.

Re: time capsule, Tracy passed out a rough draft of a sketch from Steve Ladd of Steel-Pro – a spec with dimensions 12" high, 24" wide, 36" long, a gasketed box that will be watertight so we won't need to put another box inside of this box as in the '74 Bicentennial. Steve said we could change the dimensions if desired. Tracy added we need only simple hand tools, no specialized equipment to open and close it. She brought up a cut-off time of when we are going to close it so we can bury it. It will be a simple process, and we could probably say up until Sunday. In answer to Martha, Tracy said we will have designated drop off locations for time capsule items, and we have discretion. She also said our first item for the time capsule has been donated. She plans to put this information in the book, so it's memorialized for the next committee. She added Steel-Pro is very excited, and it will only take them a week or two to put the time capsule together and fabricate it.

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Size of the new time capsule was discussed. Cindy brought up a size limit for donated items. Tracy and Argy said we know Union Elementary students will contribute a book with something from all 110 kids. Other items to include: stuffie, two books, savings bond, coin, blueberry rake, hat, t-shirt, stuff from the last time capsule, etc. Tracy said Union Farm is donating the equipment which is why there are lift hatches on the new time capsule.

Motion that we ask them to do a 14”x 24”x36” by: Martha Johnston-Nash

Argy didn't think there was a need to vote on this. In answer to Ruth Ann, Tracy said the coffin was just the vault and inside was a metal box. We don't know the dimensions, but it's not huge. Consensus was to have Steel-Pro make the new time capsule 14”x24”x36.” Tracy said she will email Steve tomorrow.

Re: Saturday, Tracy said it was amazing, great turnout, and Cindy is phenomenal. They handed out about 50 schedules as well as a couple of coins, hats, t-shirts, and signups for the email.

Re: Civil War monument, Tracy said she has the material to start cleaning. She and her husband have a plan in place of spraying down the treatment. She has done some inconspicuous spots on the monument and cleaned one of the veterans memorial monuments on the other side already. She will put a call out as soon as they make the decision on when to do the bulk of the cleaning.

Norma left the meeting.

Consensus was the “Remember the Trees” performance was great. Argy said they saved the Moxie banner which will hopefully be in the parade as well as another surprise from that performance perhaps.

Argy said the contra dance has been changed to Friday, May 17, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All are invited from the community as well as the school, where the kids have been practicing contra dance during PE. Location is the school.

Re: hats, Martha said we've sold more than half. The range of colors was displayed in front of her. She said the summary shows we traded one hat with Waldoboro for their book, and a damaged one had to be replaced. Of the 62 left, we sold half of them. Net at this point is a \$109 deficit. We made up \$100 of that tonight. Everything we sell from here on is profit. She said we will get different colors next time. When we sell the rest of these 31 hats, we will have made \$511 (minus tax). Martha will send the summary electronically for the records. She will get money to Bruce/Karen.

Re: t-shirts, Martha said they can be printed as soon as we give the go-ahead. She wanted to make sure there's enough cash flow noting we have sponsorship just for the volunteers' t-shirts (covering 100 volunteers). She confirmed we were not going to put

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the sponsor on the t-shirts. If she puts the order in tomorrow, we could get the t-shirts in a couple weeks – assorted sizes, a few colors, full logo on the front w/circular lettering. In answer to Argy, Martha said she expected we'd sell 300 overall including online and probably get 100 now. Martha added hats, t-shirts, coins, and posters if they do the printing can be added to the online store. We would have to resize the logo for kids' sizes; she will order some XS extra small. Price for the first 100 will be on the order of \$1,100, maybe some artwork time.

Motion that we go forward with the production of 100 t-shirts of various sizes by: Ruth Ann Senff-Wiemer

Tracy brought up parameters. Martha said she has a good handle on sizes, etc. Cindy confirmed Adventure Advertising is printing the orders and running the online store. Martha said they will not print one at a time. Cindy said she hoped to avoid unsold boxes of t-shirts. In answer to Argy, Martha said we should have more flexibility to order special colors online and noted ones we have on hand probably won't be that varied in color. She described the cut of the shirts and said the colors are heathered/muted with probably just the black lettering. Argy confirmed with Martha that online orders will be separate from the 100, and Cindy noted no cash outlay with the online store.

Motion to move ahead to order 100 shirts, the colors of which we have discussed, and set up the online store by: Ruth Ann Senff-Wiemer

2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to order 100 to have on hand for sales, and have Martha and Adventure Advertising move forward with setting up the online store by: Tracy Weed  
5-0

Re: online store, Martha said they will basically sell for the amount we ask them to. It will be set up as soon as she calls them tomorrow. Available will be: hats, t-shirts, coins if we want... Tracy asked about the logistics of selling coins via online store. Martha will find out more. Argy suggested launching with hats and t-shirts and add other things down the road. Consensus was good idea. In answer to Ruth Ann, Tracy said she can get more coins with a two-week printing period. The pricing will be the same. She asked for another dummy version with the letters being in black, a different raised embossed part of it, if we do a second order. She added 150 is the minimum order, and we've sold 58 in a week having ordered 200.

Argy summarized: hats and t-shirts in the online store; hats and t-shirts available in two weeks in time for our next pop-up (May 18 barbecue at the Masons, Bicentennial movie Wednesday night); and go from there re: adding more things to the online store.

Re: volunteers, Martha said we need to be sure we are covered for everything and passed out paperwork. She said we need someone on grounds on the Common and someone on grounds at the fairgrounds for every hour of this event for the weekend. She went over the schedule and estimated number of volunteers needed for each item. Tracy said Ashley is working on getting volunteers from the high school for children's activities and will get

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the list of names to Martha. Committee member and other volunteer roles were discussed. Tracy suggested a list of FAQs to arm volunteers with.

Bob asked about sheriff's department or state police coverage. Ruth Ann said re: road closure, Knox County will be at the bottom of Ayer Hill and Warren Fire Department at the 235/Western Road junction. Tracy said re: the event, the sheriff's office will be notified, but we are not hiring extra patrol, and a tabletop exercise is scheduled. She added Pat Hood is helping.

Also in answer to Bob, Ruth Ann said the parade will be led by the Grand Marshal and the pipe band. Shanie Pease will be driving the Grand Marshal. Bob confirmed the driver knows the parade route.

Martha said she did not include things like the chamber concert, church events, and historical society events on the volunteer information. Volunteers needed for the weekend were discussed: parking, greeting, DRI (Direct Responsible Individual) for each location, merchandise, etc. Martha will message the group with questions. Tracy said we don't need volunteers for the lobster lady reading. Re: Company B, Tracy said they'll be checking in Friday; Ruth Ann said Sonja and she will be there for that. Martha said we also need Master of Ceremonies for each day, not volunteer. Argy said we have several potential MC candidates, which Martha said needs to be formally discussed by the committee.

Re: posters, Argy said we need to have them printed this week. Cindy got prices from Adventure; she said Martha would get a discount due to the online store. Poster prices from Cindy (11x17, 100 batch, single sided, full color, 28 lb. paper): Supplies Unlimited will do it for \$.79, because we already have print-ready files for the hats, coins, etc. She showed a mockup. If we needed computer things, \$2 flat fee. Adventure Advertising would be \$1.40 each and \$80 setup fee in 15-minute increments, but again Martha has already talked to them and they're making t-shirts. SBS Carbon Copy in Waterville, \$.68 each, no setup fee, one-day turnaround on 100 posters. KDK who does the US Toboggan Race posters would charge \$250 for 100; they outsource and would do 12x18 on 16 point card stock or \$2.50 each. It's been phone tag with Maine Printing and Embroidery who made the banner.

The poster was further discussed and QR code. Cindy said we could make stickers (for QR code) on Avery print labels. The Damariscotta company can make a 2"x2" rectangle for \$1.50 each, \$1.95 for a 3" circle then we'd have to peel and stick them on. She suggested the QR code on the poster looked fine.

The committee thanked Bob for coming, as he left.

The poster and printing options were further discussed. Road signs were also discussed (estimated 50). Argy reminded each sponsor is getting a sign that has to be separate.

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Motion that Cindy move forward with coordinating with Supplies Unlimited in Damariscotta for creating 100 posters to start with by: Tracy Weed  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Ruth Ann Senff-Wiemer  
5-0

Re: collectible poster, Cindy confirmed this is it – just one poster. Consensus was fine. Argy said we could sell some without the QR codes, or people could cut them off.

Cindy will check on 50 road signs: can they be less than 100? Do they all have to be the same? Argy suggested 50 road signs, then 50 that would be the individual signs.

Motion that we move ahead on the 50 road signs (find out what they cost then go ahead and order those 50 per Argy) by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Tracy Weed  
5-0

Ruth Ann brought up concerns about law enforcement at the concert. Tracy said there would be a fee to hire a private detail. Argy said the tabletop is to review all the details. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Re: trees, Argy said they will arrive in the next couple of days and be planted in the next week or two. Re: bandstand, Michael returns this week, Tracy has done a ton of work cleaning, and Michael will work through until it's finished. The sign goes to the select board tomorrow night for approval. Argy showed sign work by Andy White who has been donating all his time, to positive reactions.

Weekly meetings were mentioned.

**5. Next meeting:** May 20, 6:00 p.m.

**6. Adjourn:**

Motion by: Cindy Wright  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Tracy Weed  
5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo  
Secretary