

Bristol Bicentennial Committee

February 28, 2017

Present: Janet Cote, Hilda Bruno, Lucille Keegan, Deb Johnson, Donna Manfra, Leslie Dion

Minutes: The minutes of January 24, 2017 meeting were reviewed. ***Lucille Keegan moved to accept the minutes as presented. Hilda Bruno seconded and the motion passed.***

1. Planning – Task Updates

- a. Entertainment/Bands/Storyteller: Janet has been doing entertainment research and is creating a database of potential entertainers. She will continue building it. She has found the NH Shriners Chapter, Color Guards, Marching Bands, Drum & Bugle Corps, Storytellers, etc. She spoke with Rebecca Rule and she is very interested in working with us. If we are doing a play we will need an initial meeting with her.

Janet will continue to work on the list and she did a little grant research and Deb provided her with a list of NH Charitable Fund. Deb said she has had good luck writing grants with some of these groups. Janet thinks Rebecca is involved in the NH Humanities Council.

Janet said that there is a Storyteller alliance that might be able to help us as well.

- b. PR/Planning Person/Select Board Update: Les presented info from Claire Moorhead about helping us with some planning. Claire did the oversight of the Woodstock 250th celebration. She is willing to sit down with us for a few meetings. Claire shared that Woodstock did theirs over a week as they wanted people that had lived in the area to be able to plan a vacation to attend. Claire felt that our \$50,000 budget is a great start and in Woodstock they ended up making money. She is willing to have an initial consultation with us for \$300 that would include sharing of her research/information from other community celebrations, along with guidance and suggestions in regards to creating a timeline, committee structure, task lists, potential events and finances. Janet suggested that we may want to do the initial consultation with her as it will help get us on track. She asked Les to check with the Select Board to see if we can start expending money now.

Les said that Rick Alpers showed her a coin that he had received from an organization recently that looked really good. She will see if he can find out where they ordered it so we can look at the product. Deb said there is an organization in Maine that does a lot of commemorative things as well.

- c. Librarian/Humanities Council Update: Lucille said that the Library is going to be on board. They will come up with a way to focus on more local programs for that timeframe. An ancestry event was suggested and it would be good to do it with some of the original families from the area.
- d. Historical Playwright/Encampment/Re-enactment: Hilda reported that she has sent an email to the 12th Regiment but has not heard back yet. She thought it might be great to have an Abenaki group, Civil War Group and Revolutionary War Group. She has been thinking of reaching out to people that might have an amusing anecdote about the town. If the group thinks this would be good she will work on this. Lucille said it would be fun to use articles from the old newspapers. There could be someone on stage reading some of the highlighted articles.

Deb asked about having a photo gallery of pics or maybe creating a book. Some of these could be put in a Program Guide if we do one. Deb said that the Agnes Lindsay Trust might be a good place to ask for help. Agnes was from this area and we might want to get info on her beginnings.

Other: Les suggested we could do trivia questions throughout the year. Deb said this would be good to do in the papers leading up to the event.

We discussed a possible Story Walk around the history of the town. Lucille said we could have people stationed at each point at times. Deb said they have done this as a progressive dinner as well.

Lucille suggested we could do plaques for houses with the date that they were built and sell them.

- e. Grant/Fundraising Research: We covered some of this earlier. Deb said it would be easier to nail down who to apply to for grants if we knew what we were doing.
2. Continued Discussion:
 - a. Fundraising Ideas: A bicentennial cocktail table book was suggested. Also partnering with local organizations so that revenue from some events/activities could go to them and help them out as well.
 - b. Les will contact Claire about coming to our next meeting.
 - c. We could do a day meeting with a sub-committee with Rebecca during the day regarding the performance.
 - d. Deb is interested in focusing on fundraising events.
 - e. We discussed that a Revolving Fund would be helpful as we may have funds coming in towards the event.
 - f. 2017 will be spent on planning and 2018 we will lock in all actual events and activities.
3. Deb will send a letter of interest to the Select Board to see about being appointed to the Committee. If we think of any specific questions that we want to cover with Claire we should send them to Janet. Also email Janet our phone numbers.

Next Meeting: March 28th at 7 pm at the Town Office

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie Dion