

Chester 300th Anniversary Celebration Committee Meeting
(held remotely)
June 8, 2021
Approved Minutes
7:00 PM

Members present:

Jean Methot, Chairman
Edward Stuart
Nancy Jolin
Chris Hadik
Sue Rieter
Jeff Dinopoulos
Selectman Stephen Landau

Members absent:

Rhonda Lamphere, Treasurer

Guests present:

Jay Bishop
Chester PACT

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Methot called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Selectman Landau confirmed that future meetings can be held in a hybrid fashion, both in person and via Zoom; it is up to the individual group. Chairman Methot said the June 22nd meeting will probably be held in person.

2. Attendance/Chairman's Announcement

3. Approval of Minutes

a. May 25, 2021

On line 176, the spelling of Morgane Vigroux's name was corrected.

Mr. Hadik moved to accept the minutes of the May 25, 2021, meeting as amended. Ms. Jolin seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

a. Gala ticket sales

i. If you have sold tickets, please have a count. Don't need meal choices right now.

Ms. Lamphere needs to know as soon as possible when tickets are sold. The Committee members will not be sitting at the same table. Ms. Jolin said there is no assigned seating but if a full table is sold, it will be marked as reserved. Ticket sales will close a week before the event to give the facility a count on meal choices.

b. Photographer

The contract needs to be finalized. The photographer agreed to four payments instead of two: October, February, June, and after the Finale. Ms. Jolin will ask her to attend the June 22nd meeting. Ms. Jolin will ask if she is willing to take pictures of the old houses before the end of July. The photographer verbally agreed to the new payment schedule, so Ms. Jolin will ask her for a revised contract.

c. Number Plates

Mr. Hadik received the samples but they are not acceptable. He has contacted another provider and will ask them to make portions of the plate reflective and to add a white border. The minimum order is 125 at \$7.70 apiece. For 250, the price is \$7.10 apiece. Mr. Bishop said other towns purchase plates to display on fire trucks, school buses, police cars, etc. There is a trend to build birdhouses out of license plates; towns are doing this and selling them as a fundraiser.

d. 1st mailer for Gala

The first mailer for the Gala will be going out by the end of the week.

e. Sponsorships

Mr. Bishop said the best days for appointments for him are Mondays and Tuesdays, primarily Tuesday afternoons. Ms. Rieter created a Google calendar to keep track of appointments. Mr. Dinopoulos is willing to make calls to set up appointments. Ms. Rieter suggested brainstorming the list of potential sponsors and working up a schedule of calls. Sponsorships are needed to pay for advertising, which will pay for the events. Mr. Dinopoulos will create a sponsor list that can be put into Google Docs and the committee members can update it.

5. Member General Comments/Public Comments

a. Anyone that wants to discuss anything other than Event Budget items at this meeting, this is where we will discuss it.

- i. Christmas Tree Lighting – Chairman Methot will ask the Manchester Chorale to meet with the Committee. Selectman Landau will find out if the Town has lights and research a tree topper. Mr. Bishop will bring information on a company that does Christmas lights to the next meeting. He also has information on an MIT student who sets lights to music.
- ii. Bonfire – Will be held at Wason Pond if it isn't held at Spring Hill Farm. There could be ice skating, if the pond is frozen.
- iii. Proclamation Day – There is no response from the governor yet. Chairman Methot will contact him.
- iv. Car Show
 1. Andre from A&A Balloon is willing to do a tethered balloon on the baseball field at Chester Academy. His normal price is \$2,500 for two hours, not including set-up time, but he is willing to work with the Committee as it is a Town event. It is weather dependent. Each ride is about 3-4 minutes. He can put a large banner on the balloon or basket for advertising. He would probably not be interested in trading for advertising.
 2. The car show will need a rain date (August 13th?). Participants will be charged a fee. There will need to be prizes and trophies. A Chester license plate could be included when a car owner pays their entry fee or offered to the first X number of entrants. The best of show winners could

be included in the parade. There is usually a speaker or DJ system. Mr. Bishop suggested calling the Pepperell senior citizens, who DJed their car show.

- v. Fireman's Muster – JCR from Candia drills holes for public service and have diamond bits that can drill into the ledge, and can set and anchor the poles. Mr. Hadik said the cost was estimated at \$7,000 for that service. Skillings Water Drilling company is on the potential sponsor list and might be able to drill the holes for the poles.
- vi. Geocache – Will need prizes. Ms. Rieter has information on companies that produce coins that will be given to anyone who visits all of the sites. The Boy Scouts are actively looking for geocaching opportunities to earn a badge.

6. Event Budgets

a. Worksheet Attached—This is a working document for all liaisons to participate in

- i. Mr. Dinopoulos will update the spreadsheet that Ms. Lamphere created
- ii. Christmas Tree Lighting – refreshments (\$350)
- iii. Proclamation Day
 - 1. Stage
 - 2. Sound system
 - 3. Time capsule – the Board of Selectmen would like to buy it individually, not out of Town funds. Mr. Dinopoulos is researching time capsules. Mr. and Mrs. Dinopoulos will set up a table at the Town Dump to collect donated items.
 - 4. Refreshments
 - 5. Reenactors (\$650)
- iv. Car Show –
 - 1. Kevin created a sheet with prices.
 - 2. Revenue – Food trucks can pay a fee to sell food at the event. There is an entry fee for cars (anywhere from \$15 to \$30?), the Committee can sell water/soda
- v. Fireman's Muster
 - 1. Revenue – possibly food trucks, possibly the balloon
- vi. Parade – Mr. Hadik, Ms. Lamphere and Mr. Bishop are working on the budget

7. Next Meeting – June 22, 2021

8. Adjourn

Mr. Stuart moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Mr. Hadik seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary

