

SOUTH WINDSOR 175th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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September 10, 2020

Virtual Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Brenda Koboski, Vice-Chairperson
Josh Johnson

Members Absent: Natalie O'Brien
Gavin Zhu
Madhu Reddy

Other Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna, Town Council
Councilor Janice Snyder, Town Council
Nicholas Jones
Marietta St. Onge
Betty Warren

3. Election of Officers

There was no quorum, so Election of Officers will be done at the next meeting.

4. Adoption of Minutes (July 23, 2020)

There was no quorum, so Adoption of Minutes will be done at the next meeting.

5. Public Input

None

6. Procedure for New Chairperson and Member Appointments

The election of a new Chairperson will be done at the next meeting. The appointment of new members will be made by the Town Council.

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ITEM:

7. Discussion Items

- Bench Painting Contest

Brenda informed the Committee that Ray Favreau had said he could get one bench for the contest at this time. A lead person will need to be chosen for this event.

- Jubilee – September 17 & 18, 2021

Nevers Road Park has been reserved for this event. Friday night, there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a VIP section, placing items into the time capsule, and fireworks. On Saturday, there will be a parade and a Jubilee.

Committee members discussed different ideas for the Jubilee, such as having vintage baseball and vintage cars. Brenda stated she had thought about having tractors in the parade and horses. The Committee is presently working with Connecticut Valley Brewing, who is creating a lager for the 175th Anniversary. Discussions have been held about having a beer garden at the Jubilee where beer mugs could be sold to the public.

- Passport – Town Tour (Natalie)

It has been discussed about having a Town tour of points of interest in Town using a passport. People would walk or drive to different points of interest in Town, and when they are at a location, individuals can go on a YouTube channel and get an explanation of the history of the place they are visiting. Brenda and Natalie will work on this event, and the Committee will also try to partner with Wood Memorial Library & Museum on this event.

Marietta stated that she loves the passport idea and feels it can be tied in with social media. Marietta then suggested doing something like geocaching for the kids where you hide prizes and give clues to find those prizes.

- Gala – see Google Drive for menu options (Brenda)

Maneeley's Banquet & Catering has been booked for the Gala on October 16, 2021. Planning for this event will be discussed at a later date.

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ITEM:

7. Discussion Items (*Continued*)

- Printing/Memorabilia (Josh)

Josh informed the Committee that he had found a few sites to order printed memorabilia. Items he is looking at purchasing are t-shirts, tumblers, mugs, facemasks, and tote bags. Images can be put on the tote bags and facemasks. A spreadsheet has been created with items and prices which can be found on the Google Drive.

Brenda will speak with the Town Manager about the Committee's ability to sell t-shirts or sweatshirts to the public, and how to handle payments.

- Tree Planting – Plaque needed (Natalie)

Brenda stated that Ray Favreau has a tree for the Tree Planting. More information can be provided at the next meeting.

- Time Capsule

Brenda explained that items suggested to be put in the time capsule were listed on the Google Drive. A book can be put into the time capsule from all of the events of the 175th Anniversary, as well as newspaper articles.

- Essay contest – theme ideas

Natalie is working on this event with Daria Plummer. The different topic ideas for each age group are listed on the Google Drive. One of the themes for the essay contest could be for kids to list items they feel should be put into the time capsule.

8. New Business

- New Members/volunteers Recruitment

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact someone on the Committee to get involved.

ITEM:

8. New Business (*Continued*)

- Media/Advertisements/Press Releases

Marietta felt that the Committee should start preparing materials such as press releases to inform the public of the events that are being planned utilizing all aspects of communications such as newspapers, social media, and public access.

- Facebook/Social Media posts

Josh stated that he is the administrator for the Facebook page. He said he would add Marietta or anyone interested in having access to the Facebook page.

- 2021 presence at local events: summer concerts, Farmer's Market, Rec. events, etc.

Brenda felt that the Committee should reach out to organizations when 2021 events start to happen in order to allow Committee members to have a presence at different events to get the word out regarding the 175th Anniversary events.

Brenda stated she would like to start preparing post cards to announce some of the dates for the 175th Anniversary celebrations. Save the Date magnets could be distributed at different events.

Marietta suggested creating a video of residents of all ages that could be put on social media.

Mayor Paterna stated that he would work with Steve Lewis regarding electric cars for the parade.

9. Next Meeting

Committee members will be informed when the next meeting has been scheduled.

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ITEM:

10. Adjournment

At 6:55 p.m., Madhu made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah W. Reid
Council Clerk