

250th Celebration Meeting Minutes from Oct. 10, 2018

The October 250th Meeting was held at the Meeting House and started promptly at 7 p.m. Community Members present were Maryanne Petrin, Fred Davis, Don and Pixie Hill, Poul Heilmann, Leigh and Happy Callaway, Alice Nulsen, Janet Lebrecht, Trudy Heath, Deb Seyfried, Dick Hendl, Jim and Cune Bednar, Angela MacCreighton, Emily Cleaveland, Brandt Denniston, Donna Tibbetts and Marla Binzel.

Don Hill started the meeting by reassuring everybody that what we have accomplished in 10 months is nothing short of a miracle, but that we cannot start to coast in 2019 as it could leave us \$20,000 to \$30,000 shy of our goal. The meeting minutes from the 8/29/2018 meeting were never completed, but an attempt to finish them will be made.

Leigh Callaway gave the treasurer's report. At present we have raised just over \$37,000 and with expenses we have \$22, 224.51 in the bank. There will be some more expenses on the horizon as more "hoodie" sweatshirts were ordered and payment for fireworks in January is expected by Nov. 1st.

Poul Heilmann presented the 2019 Calendar starting with the goals for the different events. The first goal is to energize the community with fun events, increase participation and celebrate what Springfield has to offer. The second goal is to offer something for everyone. All age groups should be considered. The third goal is to make the Meeting House the center of most activities. Heighten the awareness of how special this building is to the community. And lastly, fundraising for "Give Springfield a lift" will continue. There are nearly 35 activities planned in 2019 with various organizations in town taking lead on several of them. The Conservation Commission has a series of hikes to various landmarks in town. A historical scavenger hunt is being planned. A tea party with historical photos on loan from the Historical Society will be held. Old Home Day will be beefed up with some extra events.

Don Hill discussed the process for the selection of fireworks that has been taking place. Don and Bill Waddell met with 2 of the 3 companies to discuss flexibility with the Highland Games Schedule. One company was more willing to help out in that regard and even agreed to put on extra staff which would allow the Highland Games to continue to 6 p.m. if necessary. A vote was taken to select the company and it will be awarded to North Star. The cost for the January 5, 2019 show is \$3000. Another vote was taken by the 5 members of the Old Home Day Committee to spend \$7000 of the money that has been stockpiled by the Old Home Day Committee. It was a unanimous vote to approve with knowledge that Natallia and Ron Whiting would be notified of the decision. (Pixie has emailed both of them with the decision). Jim Bednar will contact the company and ask that half of the OHD money be sent in Jan. and the other half after the town meeting in March.

Poul Heilmann gave an update on the Merchandise sales. He has ordered more hoodies, even some zippered hoodies. A reminder that XL and 2XL Tshirts also need to be ordered and Poul said he would take care of that. The hope is that merchandise will sell well around the holidays.

Pixie gave an update on the State license plates. The cost to the State will be \$8.50 each, regardless of the quantity ordered. 50 plates is the minimum order allowed. Discussion followed as the quantity that should be ordered and as to the price that we should sell them for. A vote was taken and 50 plates will be ordered (no extra charges if more need to be ordered) and the selling price will be \$20 each. Don Hill will forward the necessary file to the State DMV so these can be ordered.

Jim Bednar highlighted the Sip-a-Soup event on Nov. 10, from 11-2 at the Meeting House. It was felt that after Jim's presentation of the pricing it needed to be simplified. He will continue to work on that. He has 11 soups being made, Blue Loon bakery is donating the bread and a Caesar salad will be served with the luncheon portion. Jim, also, talked about the upcoming Christmas Craft Fair. He has 10 tables rented out, leaving space for a few others. The Springfield Garden Club will be selling wreaths and swags. Deb Seyfried and Barbara Cooper will be running the cookie table. Hot mulled cider will be available. The Christmas fair takes place on Dec. 1st from 9-2 at the Meeting House.

Don Hill enlightened the crowd with information on the upcoming Birthday Party scheduled for Jan. 5, 2019 or Jan 6, 2019 (in case of snow or high winds on the 5th). There are still decisions to be made but the committee is focusing on a start time of 2:30 at the Meeting House. There will be birthday cake, kid's games, a historical society reenactment and possibly music and the quilt drawing. Around 3:30 people will proceed to the open space across from the Midgett's home and enjoy a bon fire. The Fire Dept. has agreed to help out with that. There will be a sing-along, a piñata on the basketball court for adults and children. Around 4:30 there will be chili and hotdogs available in the fire station. And at 5:30 there will be a short fireworks display to punctuate the kick-off of 2019 Activities. More details to come as they are worked out.

Pixie Hill and Emily Cleaveland gave an update on Old Home Day. Alison Patten has taken point on the parade. The group has some great ideas and are working on nailing down a theme for the parade. Surveys were handed out to the group at this meeting and the survey will be at the Post Office until a better response has come in. Fred Davis, who was elected to be the Grand Marshal, has done lots of research on special items in the parade. Missy Gaherty has booked the "Leaping Lena" car. There will be prize categories: Best Theme Interpretation (1st, 2nd and 3rd in both float category and single entry), Most Original (1st, 2nd and 3rd in both Float and Single Entry) and 1 prize for Multi-generational participation) Donations for prizes such as Maple Syrup etc. will be sought out. The plan is to have 3 judges, yet to be determined who. Doreen Patten will return to be the Queen of the parade (she was the princess in 1969) and there will be a Princess Contest. 9-16 years of age can enter by writing a 5-8 sentence essay on "Why I would like to be Princess for the 250th) This will probably be launched at the Birthday Party in Jan. People will vote on their favorite essay, not their favorite person. Emily talked about the Entertainment Committee. It will be "confetti" for Old Home Day. Again, many options are being entertained. Hopefully the "ForeverLocked" Moose display will come to Springfield. The DHART helicopter should also be coming, provided they don't have an emergency at the scheduled time. An attempt will be made to have a fire and rescue demonstration tie into the DHART landing. The library is being contacted to see if they can coordinate a puppet show. And a possible band for the bridging of the end of OHD and the beginning of the Chicken BBQ.

Don Hill spoke briefly on the upcoming meeting on Collins Park. On Oct. 22 the Conservation Commission, Historical Society, Garden Club, Deb and Charles Midgett and the 250th Celebration Volunteers will meet at 7 p.m. at the Meeting House to discuss how to improve the Collins Park Experience. Stay tuned.....

Leigh Callaway has volunteered to be the point person on the Time Capsule if one is wanted. With a show of hands support for the Time Capsule was given. Leigh asked for volunteers to help with the project and 5 or 6 people signed on. Stay tuned.....

There was open floor discussion. Emily Cleaveland shared her story regarding Hogg Hill wanting to participate in her Dahlia tour. As soon as Emily asked if people wanted to participate, the response was immediate wanting to help with a picnic of some sort. Brandt Denniston suggested we do a spread sheet that would measure our successes for the various events using the goals we have listed. Emily volunteered to take on that project.

The next meeting will be held on Nov. 14, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Meeting House.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pixie Hill