

Dec. 6, 2017 250th Celebration Meeting Minutes

The Dec. 6, 2017 250th Celebration Meeting took place in the Meeting House on Four Corners Rd at 7 p.m.. Community Members present were Poul Heilmann, Don and Pixie Hill, Sue and Keith Cutting, Fred Davis, Cune and Jim Bednar, Sue and Mike Chiarella, Trudy Heath, Janet Lebrecht, Dick Hendl, Donna Tibbetts, Alice Nulsen, Angela MacCreighton, Winfield Santor, Andy D'Amico, and Barbara Cooper.

Chairman Don Hill opened the meeting with an update on the outcome from the Selectman's Meeting that he and Jim Bednar attended on Nov. 27. The Selectboard unanimously agreed to a budget line of \$3500 for 2018 and 2019 for the 250th Celebration. This must also be approved by the budget committee before we will know if it will be included in the final budget. Any funds will have to be approved at the town meeting in March. He, also, stated that the 250th Committee has permission to use the Meeting House on an "as needed" basis in 2018. Mason Wheeler has agreed to open and close the Meeting House when notified which will be Springfield Plumbing and Heating's donation to the committee.

Leigh Callaway gave an update on the status of the Charitable Trust Fund. He has submitted a lengthy document to be reviewed by Town Council, making sure all of the I's are dotted and T's are crossed so once this has been reviewed we can proceed immediately with the initiation of the Trust Fund. He is hoping the Selectboard will be able to sign off on the Charitable Trust Documents at the Mon., Dec. 18th Selectboard Meeting. Don made a motion to establish a sub-committee to get the Trust Fund established once the documents have been approved so that anyone wishing to make a donation in 2017 for tax deduction purposes can do so. Poul Heilmann seconded it and it was unanimously passed. Leigh Callaway, Poul Heilmann and Angela MacCreighton and Trudy Heath will make up this committee.

Don Hill brought up the project at the town beach as a possible goal for fundraising. The town beach is limited as to how much sand can be spread on it in its current state. A new "perched beach" would be designed by an engineer and then fabricated at a possible dollar amount of \$28,000. Donna Tibbetts stated that this may be of benefit to more people than the lift in the Meeting House. Discussion was tabled due to time restraints.

Donna made a motion to accept the minutes from the Nov. 15, 2017 meeting as presented. Leigh Callaway seconded the motion and they were unanimously approved. It was suggested that the schedule that has been created for events in 2018 and 2019 be attached to the minutes from this meeting so more and more people become aware.

Poul Heilmann gave an update on the Communications and PR meeting that was held. The hope is to have tri-fold brochures and calendars available soon for placement at the post office and other central locations. It is costly to advertise in publications and newspapers, but important events will have to be, but spending has to be cautious. Community boards on radio stations and the Intertown Record will be utilized to our fullest potential. Digital exploration will include facebook, the town website and emails. Trudy Heath suggested that a write up on the 250th Celebration could possibly be included in the town report. A question of maybe using the new logo for the cover was asked. This, too, has potential of stirring up interest in the celebration.

Donna Tibbetts gave an update on the logo contest. No entries have been submitted, but Pixie reports that interest is high and it's still early to be expecting entries. Most entries will be submitted nearer to the deadline on Dec. 28th. Judges for the contest will be Trudy Heath, representing the Historical Society, Barbara Cooper, representing the Library and Donna will be working on getting a highschool student to be a judge, trying to get the youth of today involved in this event. Pixie gave Donna a contact person.

Donna, also, gave the group a synopsis of the event scheduled for Jan. 7, 2018. She had prepared a budget for the event and requested from the committee a total of \$300. Jim Bednar made a motion to accept the \$300 budget (with the understanding to spend less if at all possible), and Cune Bednar seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Short discussion followed about the event. The focus will be announcing the logo contest winner, the slide show of the Bicentennial, cake and educating people about the upcoming events. Fred Davis suggested we sing the "Springfield Kindergarten Song" written by long-time resident Nancy Vandewart. This was well received. Mike and Sue Chiarella will be donating the cake for the event.

Angela MacCreighton, the point person for the fundraising group, had compiled a list of 180 businesses and requested that volunteers find the contact name and mailing address for 10 businesses so that one person would not have to do all of the work. Many people in the crowd offered to help. We are to email Angela our findings as soon as possible so letters for support can go out soon after the New Year.

Cune Bednar had compiled a list of "What makes Springfield Special" and Merchandising suggestions and asked the group to vote for their top 3 choices for "What makes Springfield Special" and their top 5 choices for "Merchandising". This will give an idea as to what we need to get ordered for fundraising and give us tag lines about Springfield being special.

The next 250th Celebration Meeting is scheduled for Jan. 10, 2018 at the Protectworth Room at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pixie Hill