

Town of Suffield
350TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, August 24, 2021 @ 7 p.m.
Zoom Conference

Present: Tara Beaulieu, Cari Cieri, Beth Chafetz, Kacy Colston, Norm Noble, Caroline d'Otreppe, Lester Smith,

Absent: Eric Remington, Rachel Spears

Public : Sharon Bruno, Stephannie Holland

Bold – Actions taken **Red** – Things to do

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Review agenda
 - a. No additions or changes
2. Review and approval of minutes from 7/27 meeting
 - a. Approved with the addition of Rachel Spears name as absent.
 - b. **Motion to approve by Tara. All approved**
3. *Public Comment*
4. Big Parade Update
 - a. 45 entrants for the parade – looking for list of entrants to advertise names
 - b. Parade budget has stipends included for specific groups.
 - c. More specific details for groups will be forthcoming.
 - d. Stephanie Holland (SHS) is helping with the school floats and asked questions about information from the parade committee. Stephannie will contact Melissa Finnegan re: more specific information.
5. Status of Events, Programs and Projects for 2021
 - a. Block Party after parade
 - i. Tara confirmed with SMS Student Council will provide music and run games. A donation to Student Council will be made. Boy Scouts will do popcorn and perhaps baked potatoes. Tara is checking about food trucks.
 - ii. **Kacy asked Tara to find out if the SMS SC might want to give out prizes.**
The 350th can help with those costs.
 - iii. **Tara will check with Hood about donating ice cream.**
 - iv. Time for the Block Party would be from approximately 11:30 -2 p.m.
 - v. Advertising for the Block Party will be run in the *Observer*, Facebook, Town email blast.
 - vi. **Kacy will check to see if information about the 350th weekend can be put in the schools' electronic backpacks**
 - b. Sports Saturday – games start at 11 a.m. on the turf and grass fields at SHS
 - i. No new updates. CIAC schedule is out – scheduled games (soccer and field hockey) will be held from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 - ii. A 350th medallion has been created to present to the Suffield athletes participating.

- c. Fireworks at Bruce Park – Saturday night at 8 p.m. Rain date – Sunday, October 10
 - i. At Bruce Park – Parking in front field next to Spaulding
 - ii. 20-minute program – full dark at 8 pm
 - iii. 102nd Army Band was asked to play but no confirmation yet. Kacy has checked to find out if SHS band can substitute if necessary.
 - d. Film Premier and Book release – Sunday, October 10
 - i. Beth filed a request to use the SHS auditorium and Commons for the event.
 - ii. Graham cracker diorama/house contest -hoping to draw families/groups
 - iii. Set up tables for sale of 350th book and other 350th items.
 - iv. Two or three showings of the film are possible in the auditorium.
 - e. Plans for double booth at SOG – Saturday/Sunday, September 11-12
 - i. **Cari looking for help at the booth.** Selling 350th items, raffle tickets, pillory and stocks picture taking opportunity.
 - ii. **Kacy is looking into another way to take care of charging items.**
 - f. Plans for the 350th Anniversary float
 - i. **Question about what our theme might be. Suggestions are welcome.**
 - ii. Ellie the birthday cow will be included as part of the 350th Committee float.
 - iii. Lou Sorrentino, Suffield troubadour and composer of *A Town With A Heart* has been contacted to be a part of the group as well.
 - iv. Committee is inviting former members of the 350th committee to walk with us as well.
 - 1. Wear a 350th T-shirt.
 - v. **Sharon Bruno will check about getting a hay wagon.**
 - vi. **Tara will check about asking some descendants of original settlers to be part of the 350th. Caroline will help research possible participants.**
 - g. Meet the Artists reception – Phelps-Hatheway House and Gardens – 2:30 September 19
 - i. Tickets \$20 for the public. Artists and invited guests will receive complimentary tickets.
 - ii. EventBrite will be one way to acquire tickets.
 - iii. Promotion on Facebook, *Observer* and Town website.
 - iv. New director of Connecticut Landmarks will attend the event.
 - h. Mini barn quilt workshop – Stroke of Color studio at noon – Sunday, September 26
 - i. Promotion will be in the *Observer*, Facebook, Town news
 - i. COVID contingency planning
 - i. All events have a caveat that say that we will need to comply with any changes in COVID restrictions
6. Fundraising
- a. Power equipment raffle – drawing Monday, October 11
 - i. Equipment will be displayed on the Green.

- ii. Raffle tickets being sold in a variety of locations, including Town Hall.
 - iii. Contact Kacy if anyone wants to sell tickets.
 - iv. Question re: whether other organizations like Rotary who might be willing to sell tickets too, Contact Kacy with connections.
- b. Other fundraising ideas
 - i. Idea of having a silent auction online, auctioning off Suffield items.
 - 1. Some concern that earnings would not justify the work involved.
 - ii. Haven't heard from J. Cannon Trust grant application yet.
 - iii. Caroline asked about creating options for selling/giving away the film to people interested. She will check with Paul Sanderson about how to get copies made.
- 7. Communications and publicity
 - a. Deadline for October issue of *Observer* is Wednesday, September 15.
- 8. Community Outreach
 - a. Farmers Market every Saturday morning
 - b. The idea to create a 350th placemat to give to local restaurants to use as advertisements was thought to be a positive idea. Kacy will look into it.
 - c. Sandwich board will go up on the Green in September.
 - d. Kacy will submit information on the 350th Anniversary activities to the public schools' virtual backpack.
 - i. Caroline will reach out to Charlie Cahn about getting info out to the students at Suffield Academy.
- 9. Administration
 - a. Next meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, September 28
 - i. There may be a possibility of a special meeting before then.
- 10. *Public Comment*
- 11. Adjourn
 - a. Motion to adjourn made by Beth.
 - b. All approved