

Newington 150th Anniversary Steering Committee
MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2022

This meeting was presented as a Zoom™ Webinar/Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Francolino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Robert Blank
Walter Brideaux
Kathleen Marie Clark
Bill DeMaio
Joe Dubin
Eileen Francolino
Susan Gibbon
Anna Kubish
Jerilyn Nagel
Max Turgeon

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- None

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

V. REMARKS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- None

VII. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

a. Spring Event at Indian Hill

- Chair Francolino stated it is scheduled for Saturday, April 2; weary of what's going on. Should we postpone?
- Joe Dubin asked if it we could put it off for another month.
- Chair Francolino stated that we will need to start selling tickets in February; all online.
- Susan Gibbon stated it should be fine if we hold off on a decision until February.
- Chair Francolino stated that is a buffet; tickets will be no more than \$75.00. Karma's closet sold a lot of the ornaments and we did sell some at the Night of Lights.

VIII Treasurer's Report

- N/A

IX. New Business

a. Project for February

- Chair Francolino stated Jerilyn Nagel has something she wants to discuss.
- Jerilyn Nagel stated that she would like to have a town wide tag sale; suggesting April 30/May 1st. Everyone in town can participate. Town requires notification of tag sale; no charge. We will produce a map showing locations of tag sales.
- Chair Francolino also suggested getting some businesses involved.

- Ms. Nagel stated that Tolland posted it on their Chamber website.
- Bill DeMaio stated that tag sales are usually early morning 9am – 12pm. Maybe have members at businesses and give out prizes.
- Chair Francolino suggested maybe doing lunch in the park; have some ice cream. In addition to the tag sale.
- Ms. Nagel stated we don't want to divert people from going to tag sales.
- Mr. DeMaio stated that he's working with the Rotary Club for a Bicycle Park Run event on April 9th. May be some room for collaboration.
- Ms. Nagel asked how many people are going to be involved.
- Cathy Clark stated that she thinks the idea of doing more than one event on the same day isn't a bad idea and can be synergistic. Let's hit some tag sales and go to lunch. Don't see how multiple things going on at the same time would be a bad thing.
- Mr. DeMaio stated lots of restaurants don't participate in events downtown. Don't see an issue with having an event at the park.
- Ms. Clark stated that it needs some sort of name; naming all events.
- Mr. DeMaio stated it could be something like Newington's Anniversary.
- Ms. Clark stated that most tag sales start earlier than 9 that may be too late. Everyone needs to start at the same time. Interesting to see how many people are interested in participating in this event.
- Chair Francolino asked when opening day for fishing is.
- Mr. DeMaio stated not a fan of fishing events. It's expensive and not many people showed up a few years ago. Cost is a couple thousand dollars just for fish.
- A lengthy discussion regarding the fishing event occurred.
- Mr. DeMaio stated that there are other things we can do for the kids.
- Robert Blank asked about stores having sidewalk sales during the tag sale event.
- Ms. Clark stated that she thinks that's a good idea. Get people excited about Newington. Like idea of having a picnic in the park is good. Need something that is family friendly.
- Mr. DeMaio stated he's leery of a buffet during COVID; maybe have something plated.
- Chair Francolino hopes we can still have it.
- Ms. Nagel asked about rain dates, etc.
- Chair Francolino stated we can figure something out. Thinking something simple like a community breakfast for February or March. Not sure if people are ready for that.
- Ms. Clark stated we can use this time to plan events.
- Mr. DeMaio stated that we maybe start concert series on Thursdays and 150th jump in on outdoor event. Safer than doing something inside. Jerry should see what kind of interest she gets on Facebook for the tag sale.
- Ms. Clark stated that when soliciting on Facebook, see if anyone would like to volunteer to be part of this committee. Drum up some interest. Have a subcommittee of people who are into tag sales.
- Mr. DeMaio stated the second weekend in June we're planning a Thursday, Friday (Food Trucks) and Saturday (motorcycle madness) event. Maybe the 150th can find a home at one of those events and compliment it with something.
- Chair Francolino stated that maybe we could have the blow up things on the night of the Food Trucks. She asked Jerilyn to create a flyer regarding the tag sale.

X. Remarks

- Chair Francolino stated we're holding off on the 150th Ball, going to work on tag sale and maybe putting together a family friendly event in the park.

- Ms. Clark asked if the tag sale should be in June. Would any other groups in town want to have a tag sale at their place.
- Ms. Nagel stated the Historical Society has a tag sale in June.
- Chair Francolino stated that we'll plan to have the tag sale the day of motorcycle madness with a rain date the next day.
- Ms. Nagel asked what we are going to do with the money that's left over.
- Chair Francolino stated that is something that we need to think about. Not just giving money back to the town.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Joe Dubin, seconded by Anna Kubish. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon

Secretary - 150th Anniversary Committee