

Andover 375th Anniversary
Full-Committee Meeting Minutes
Andover Town Offices
Monday, February 7, 2022
In-Person Meeting

Attending: Buzz Stapczynski, Chm., Tom Adams, Clerk, Bill Pennington, Susan Pokress, Rich Padova, Joann Michalik (remote), Mellissa Litton

Staff present: Ann Ormond, Town Liaison

Absent: Alex Vispoli, Select Board Liaison, Cipriano Apicelli

Buzz Stapczynski called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM. The minutes from the January 19, 2022 are forthcoming. No public correspondence.

Buzz reviewed the outstanding balance due the Andover H. S. Marching Band from the First Night event. Total amount due is \$500

Mellissa Litton moved to approve payment; **Tom Adams** seconded. Motion roll call vote passed 7-0

Ann Ormond discussed tax form concerns from Lucille @ Golden Bough Productions. Ann will resolve. Additionally, Ann advised that the current 375th available balance is \$23,000.

Joann Michalik: Believes the balance should be higher, perhaps \$40,000.

Ann said that she needs to sit with town accounting to determine what incoming and outbound checks have cleared to get firm balance. Felt that could happen in the next week.

Tom Adams asked if the \$5000 restricted donation from Dunkin' Donuts for the Classic Car Show has been paid. **Ann** advised that it has not. **Joann** said she would reach out to Dunkin' and check on the status. **Joann** also asked about the status of the insurance for the car show. **Ann** said it is under review.

Buzz: Reviewed status of Andover Patriotic Holiday Parade. He attended a recent committee meeting. It is scheduled for Memorial Day, May 30, 2022 from 9 am to early afternoon. The theme tentatively is a celebration of veterans from wars prior to the U. S. Civil War. The 375th could help fund the parade's re-enactors or a high school band.

The event will include visits to Spring Grove, St. Augustine's and West Parish cemeteries with a program following at Town Park.

In the past, the committee has published a booklet. Buzz suggested that **Rich Padova** and **Tom Adams** could help write the copy. Both agreed.

Rich Padova: In collaboration with the Andover Center for History & Culture (ACHC), **Rich** suggested a downtown walking tour of Andover churches. He presently does walking tours in Lawrence. ACHC has both written scripts as well as a downloadable app.

Rich also discussed a program centered on past U. S. presidential visits to Andover. Partnering with Memorial Hall library, Rich could display memorabilia featuring each of these presidents.

Suggested a continental breakfast honoring Veterans on May 6th - the actual town founding anniversary. Some discussion of possible venues - Old Town Hall & the Robb Center. Get the school 3rd, 7th and 5th graders to create historical essays poems or posters to include in the breakfast event. Buzz said we need to hook up with the schools. **Melissa** said that she would make contact. **Bill Pennington** suggested that we tie in how Andover was formed, the geologic history of the Shawsheen River, the mills etc. Melissa suggested some attention be paid to who inhabited the area before the English. John Hess (A.V. I. S.) has a presentation as does Ryan Wheeler, Director of the Peabody Institute (Phillips Academy).

Buzz said that one caveat is cost and what budgets would be available to fund the event.

Joann: asked if the Andover Garden Club 11-site tour is on for 2022. **Ann** said that the tour is scheduled.

Susan Pokress: referenced past discussions about a final 375th event, potential costs and available budgets. **Ann** said she will check.

Joann: Pull in other groups including our sponsors for events.

Buzz: Asked about possibility of Lillian Montaldo hosting/sponsoring our volunteer/sponsor thank you event n her roof top garden. **Melissa** said most recent response was not promising. Suggested the committee send Lillian an email. **Buzz** said that Andover Companies has a gorgeous campus including a deck overlooking the Shawsheen River. Kevin Guilette is our contact. Would they be willing to host the event? **Ann** will also talk to 34 Park and other downtown businesses about providing catering services for the event.

Ann: Fire Fighter Union will not be doing annual horrible parade and pancake breakfast at Town Park on Memorial Day. Some thought to 375th committee getting involved. **Buzz** said that the town owns the griddles and it would be a low cost event.

Ann: Roseann @ Andover Connections has leftover 375th merchandise she's offered to sell the town. **Ann** has budget to purchase. Can use merchandise as giveaways to sponsors, volunteers etc.

Ann: An accurate current 375th budget will be available for our next meeting.

Buzz: Mentioned the need for an historical document (Journal) memorializing the 375th celebration. Perhaps adding it to the journal created by the 350th committee. It should include text, pictures and videos.

Ann: Will put a June 16th and June 23rd placeholder at Old Town Hall for the Volunteers event. Work with downtown businesses to provide catering.

Buzz: Mentioned how popular the 'Beer Garden' event (End of Summer) was and can we do another. **Ann** said that there is an Oak & Iron event in the fall and that the upcoming water project makes repeating the End of Summer problematic.

Melissa: Kathy at South Church is looking for a date for their quintet to perform likely in May or June. **Susan** suggested tying in **Rich. P's** church walking tours to a South Church performance. The walking tour could conclude at the church in time for the quintet's performance. Set aside \$3500 for the potential event.

It was decided that the next full committee meeting will be Monday, 2/28/22 at 5 PM.

Buzz called for a motion to adjourn at 6:18 pm EST. **Melissa** moved and **Rich** seconded. Roll call vote passed 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.