

Andover 375th Anniversary Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2021

Attendees: Buzz Stapczynski, Committee Chair, Susan Pokress, Melissa Litton, Rich Padova, and Joann Michalik

Others: Ann Ormond, Town Liaison and Mark Comeiro, Veteran Services Officer

Chm. Stapczynski: Called the meeting to order and called role at 5:08 PM

Chm. Stapczynski: Introduced Mark Comeiro, Andover Veteran Services Officer. Discussion took place on the possibility of the 375th combining forces with the Memorial Day Parade. Mark noted that they do not allow any type of political/election participants. He would welcome ideas to collaborate. He asked that the 375th meet with the Patriotic Holiday Committee to discuss potential ideas. He did say that they have horses and the Clan McPherson group already committed.

A quorum of 5 members was noted at 5:26 PM

First Night Update: Joann gave an extensive update on First Night Planning to date:

Reviewed key audiences for entertainment

Reviewed budget of \$120K, after already committed monies, \$38K for entertainment remains (may not use all)

Core team will have dedicated responsibilities, with Melissa leading venues, and Susie leading entertainment

We have 40 potential acts to consider

Restaurant conversations are beginning

Marilyn is working on volunteers for the event

Tom will be working on a list of publicity tasks

Car Show Update: Ann noted that she along with Paul MacKay and Wes Pettengill have been meeting on the car show. They have been in discussions with Andover Center for History & Culture (ACHC) to be a co-sponsor for the event. Potential dates for consideration are Sunday, June 12 or 19. There is a meeting this coming Thursday 10/28 with ACHC team to discuss in more detail.

2022 Update: The committee discussed the following potential 2022 events:

March – Restaurant promotion

May – Parade

June – Car Show

Thank You Event – sponsors, volunteers

There was discussion on a possible historical panel in March developed by Rich Padova and offered during a slow time of year. There was discussion of possible partnerships with ACHC and the Lawrence Heritage Center.

Fundraising: Joann reported that fundraising continues to move along. Greg Sebasky has been brought in to reach out to certain larger businesses in town. This has resulted in at least one bronze sponsor with hopefully more to come.

Publicity: Tom was not present so there was no publicity report.

Chm. Stapczynski: Called for a motion to adjourn. Melissa Litton moved; Joann Michalik seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM.