

Hampton Falls Heritage Commission
Draft Minutes Special 300th Meeting #1
December 28, 2015

The workshop meeting convened at 1:05 pm. Present were David French, Chair, Beverly Mutrie, Secretary and Ann Haggart, Commissioner. Absent were Maryann Kasprzak and Mary Ann Hill.

Discussion was led by Ann regarding the 300th celebration.

We discussed Stratham's information regarding cost: \$55K seed money and about \$10K in a warrant article every year with some money in the budget also. Lots of money needed for parade!

How much do we want to spend from taxes? Can we get the Poker Room as a fundraiser?

Need to tie fundraising to Historic Events.

NH Charitable Foundation has grant money (\$5000). We could use for marketing campaign.

Should the Heritage Commission be the umbrella organization? Ann and Beverly both thought that the Steering Committee should be working under/for the Selectmen. The HC would have 3 members of the SC, however.

Ann handed out 2 handouts. The first asked for a Steering Committee formed from existing town committees with: Cemetery Trustees -(1 member), Conservation (1), Churches (1 ea), Energy (1?), Friends Library (1), Heritage (3), Historical Society(at least 1), Recreation (1), School Staff (1), PTO (1), Town Beautification (1), Public Safety (1) along with Judy Wilson and Wendy Harrington(website, facebook etc.). Steering Committee to be appointed to a 7 year term by the Selectmen.

Categories/Ideas to be discussed in further detail:

Arts - play, music, art show or painting, sculpture, quilt, photography

Pat O'Keefe did a play re Hampton Falls History- Marsh and Gov. Weare. Can we get the script?

Heronfield has great Music Program

Historical Events: Heirloom Garden perhaps by school kids - used for meal. Agway and Applecrest participate

School Farm to Table meal

Get special postmark from Post Office

Do a Google Map

Native or African American exhibit or talk

First Horse Show in America 1722....need to have a horse show in 2022..... Heronfield?

We could have a Carnival with booths - old fashioned rides or contests perhaps?

Town Beautification: Lilacs, Elms and perhaps Apple trees planted

Eradicate Phragmites

Flower Pots?

Cemeteries: Gravestones cleaned, inventoried, identified, photographed and put on GPS

Marketing: Need PR to get people excited to attend events. Need Volunteers!

Get Logo done to be used on signage, banner, streets etc.

Post on town website, HF Living Magazine, Facebook, Google Calendar etc.

What to do to whet appetite for the event?

Road striping in color, Logo on street signs, Logo painted on street intersections

Lots of news postings to keep info current

Legacy (Long Range)

Could Gristmill become artist group/studios?

Commemorative book of the town history (1915-2015)

Rte 1 sidewalks, trees, lighting- old fashioned posts

Time Capsule

Improved Civics Education and Voting participation

Neighborhood Historic District

Energy Conservation Project

Legacy Fund from residents' pledges for 5 years. Need Advancement Person to find donors.

Fiscal/Fundraising: need knowledgeable about laws and RSAs. 300th fund in place administered by Town Treasurer.

Someone to send thank yous for donations

Need working capital

Grants, donations or matching funds from corporations

Sponsors for events

Pewter commemorative

Patty Bax ceramic ornament (plate?)

Historic dinner of the 17th, 18th, 19th centuries with guests paying for admission.

Sponsored by Pickwick's Mercantile and Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, a famous chef did a 1800's dinner for 600 people paying \$100 ea.

Chautauquas similar to Chautauqua Institution in NY

- luncheon and speaker (Clam Chowder, etc) Humanities Speakers or

Gov. Sununu, Gov. Gregg, Steve Merrill give talk....Nancy Stiles, Kelly Ayotte etc.

Picnic/Clam Bake/Bar-B-Que (varying ticket prices)

Celebration Itself: Fireworks at Depot

Parade? Floats? Bands? Cost??? with Shriner's Cars? Bean Boot? Do in conjunction with July 4th?

Meal (Ham and Bean? with Pies?)

Concert?

Speeches

Church Special Services

Games?

Photograph

Action Items: Proposed Steering Committee:

D. French will call Ken Lawrence

B. Mutrie will call Jon Bohm, Don Janik,

Ann will approach PTO and Principal at LAS

Shawn Hansen from Conservation

Jane Shanahan from Friends of Library or

Deborah Regan

Town Improvement is Larry Smith or Peter Robarts

George Koch is rep from Historical Society

Wendy Harrington and Judy Wilson re PR/Marketing

Heritage Commission: 3 members: Ann, Beverly, and

Unitarian Church is David French or David Coe

Fire/Safety appointee would be Jay Lord

Ann would type her chart/spreadsheet.

David would do organizational Flo Chart

Annual Town Report due January 7th -- Bev

Next Heritage Meeting would be January 4th at 1 pm

Reception for Steering Committee once appointed? at Museum?

Tentative 300th Workshop Date: July 11th at 1 pm.

Adjourned at 3:55 pm