

Final Meeting Minutes
375th Anniversary Committee
February 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Veronica Wallace.

Members Present: Stephen Page, Roberta Flannery, Gene Bishop, Lisa Calderone, Heidi Samuelson, Brian McGlone, Janet Testa, Carl Balestracci, Veronica Wallace, Karen Stephens

Public Comment: N/A

Minutes:

Veronica made a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2014, Steve, second, unanimous approval with these minor edits;

Two free drink voucher included in admission price.

Changed Heading called Book Status to Guilford & the Civil War

Treasurer's Update:

Heidi presented the 375th Balance Sheet as of 2/8/2014, showing CASH on hand as \$61,457.37.

She commented that Page Taft had paid their 2nd Sponsorship payment and it was reflected in the total results shown.

Heidi indicated an additional \$7K is due from other Sponsors who have paid ½ of their total investment. It was suggested those be identified and a short follow up letter or call be placed to collect those outstanding funds.

Heidi indicated there are no outstanding bills.

Brian gave Heidi \$30 (CASH) for sales of 3-coffee mugs by Mitch Goldblatt in Town Hall.

Correspondence:

Veronica has been responding to all emails concerning the sale of Crystal Ball ticket sales.

Steve has reached out to the Stony Creek Brewery's earlier offer to provide selected merchandise for sale by the 375 Committee. However, they have not responded with a proposal.

Motion was made by Stephen to go into executive session for purposes of discussion regarding a legal issue with the Crystal Ball, seconded by Heidi

Crystal Ball:

We went into Executive Session 5:50 pm to discuss several issues concerning the Ball. Motion by Carl and seconded by Gene to return out of executive session into regular session at 6:10pm.

Book Status:

The book is at the bindery and is due in about 7-10 days, or Feb 20.

1st print will be 5K copies at a cost of \$10K.

Some discussion was generated about “selling” the book, but we all agreed to maintain our earlier plan of “requesting a free will donation” of \$10.

We expect books to be distributed at; Town Hall, Park & Rec, Page Hardware, Bishop’s, Sachem Card Store, Breakwater Books, (the Library?) and other convenient locations as determined.

Guilford and the Civil War

Chairperson Edie Brown has been on vacation (out of the country) but is returning Monday, 2/10.

Progress continues to be made on the program for the day. The musical portion has been well defined. The re-enactment group has been confirmed and another from New Hampshire has volunteered to participate as well. They would like to stay overnight Friday on the Green due to the distance they will be traveling. Brian/Edie will clear that issue with the appropriate officials. Assuming both troops are here, we may have between 40-50 re-enactors in total. Based on input from our last meeting, we increased the Budget by \$900 (transportation allowance) and \$275 for porta potties. At this point, the 375 Committee’s exposure will be between \$8K-10K, although we Edie and I are still pursuing additional Sponsors.

Trails/Covenant Weekend:**Trails –**

Invitations are in-process for the dignitaries.

Meeting to occur with Park & Rec concerning the tents to be used at Chittenden Park.

Gfd Community Nursery School- will have an arts & crafts area at the Little Folks Fair (north end of Green), with all works related to the 375. They hope to obtain new t-shirts that will include a 375 logo on the shirt to demonstrate “partnering” with our committee.

The Trail Group will have an information / activities center at the south end of the Green to advise where visitors can go for hiking, paddling, kayaking trips, museums and any other activities.

Covenant –

Garden Club will be dedicating their improvements at the Woodruff Farm site.

Stone Dedication will follow.

Carl has had an idea about a portrait from within the Whitfield House, demonstrating the signing of the Covenant, using decedents from the original families. He has 5 people lined up to model for the parts. The initial portrait painter requested \$10K for her work. Carl is going to contact a 2nd painter (Claudia Post) as suggested by Heidi. He may explore the option of a photograph that is then printed on canvas paper to look “painting like”. It was suggested he contact Catherine Keirnan (photographer) to see if she can do this style of work, and obtain an estimate. We may sell prints as a fundraiser. It was suggested we might donate the picture to the Town as a 375 Gift from the Committee.

Website:

Lisa is trying to update the website on a weekly basis with new content.

She is going to pursue “call for submissions” through the schools, such as the ideas suggested by the GHS Gazette (school paper). Lori Hahn will help spread the word. We will conduct a contest to help feed stories to the 375 website. Four prime areas; essay-photo-poem-video. This will be open to all age ranges from early school age to Senior citizens. Judging will be done by a select group of committee members (TBD). Four (4) - \$100 “Guilford Dollars” prizes will be awarded. Guilford Nursery School is already doing a program called, “what do you like about Guilford?”

It was suggested by Steve that we look at the Guilford Foundation website as they are calling for Grant requests that can be up to \$2,500, to support programs focusing on our youth. There is a Grant Request Form.

It was agreed that Lisa would include all 375 related events on the website calendar; even those not part of our Signature Events. She will include other Town related events that will help drive visitors to our Town, however, she needs more input from Traci Brinkman on the scope of these events (typical examples are those events approved by the Selectmen’s office for “use of Green sign placement”).

Publicity:

Veronica reported the Banner is done and is available for use.

Roberta is working on an advertisement for the Courier (to appear Feb 20) that requires copy by Feb 12 (she and Veronica to agree on copy).

Guilford Life Magazine is willing to dedicate most of their May Edition to the Civil War, Covenant and Trail Days, HOWEVER, all input is due to Roberta by Feb 17 so she can craft a story to meet the March 4 deadline of the magazine.

Merchandise Requests:

Nothing to report, however, we agreed to route all ideas through Steve and Janet Testa.

After the meeting, it was suggested to me (Brian) that we consider a 375 Lapel Pin. I couldn’t remember if we explored that or not.

Ecumenical Service:

Since Guilford was founded by people pursuing freedom of religious expression, it was suggested we have an Ecumenical Service on the Green. All churches to be invited, including North Guilford and Madison. Fr. Shanley from St George’s will take the lead in organizing this; with the help of Dennis Cullitan Target date is Sunday, July 13, following the Community Picnic and Fireworks on Saturday, July 12.

Other:

Jonathon Stangel from Arthur Murray came to our meeting, demonstrating an interest in helping/supporting the 375. He expects to return at our next meeting with ideas in a more formalized manner.

On behalf of the Committee, Brian DONATED two (2) 375 T-shirts to the GHS Project Graduation Committee, Quilt Chair, America "Keri" Marinis. These were taken from inventory Mitch Goldblatt has in Town Hall (2/10/14).

The Committee agreed to Buy a Brick to support the Guilford Library Fund Raising efforts. This is an example of how we will give back to the community. Agreed to an 8" X 8" Brick, at a cost of \$300. We will see if we can get our 375 Logo engraved into the brick.

Adjournment:

The Committee agreed to the next meeting on Monday Feb 24, 2014 at 5:30PM at the Park & Rec Building.

There being no further business to discuss, Carl made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steve, with unanimous approval at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian McGlone for the ailing Bonnie Moore, Clerk