

MINUTES EIOT MAINE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
JULY 22, 2019
William Fogg Library

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

PRESENT: Diane Reppucci, Ann Shisler, Jan Cerabona, Lydia Goodwin, Rosanne Adams, Wendy Rawski

ALSO PRESENT: Jane Robbins (public); Robert Sapiro (Green Acre)

ABSENT: Margaret Morse, Kim Brooker (out of town)

Meeting opened at 4:30pm

Robert Sapiro was introduced to the group. It was noted, as we sat under the portrait of Sarah Jane Farmer and her dog Barry, that today was Sarah Farmer's birthday.

BUSINESS

Correspondence - Note from Heather Roy re: deadline for Community Service Department newsletter

Rosanne had worked on a draft for an announcement. It was AGREED that rather than have a list of events we needed to use this as an opportunity to let people know what we were all about and how they could get involved. We will let people know that a beginning "Calendar of Events" will be available at Eliot Festival Day. Rosanne will take the suggestions discussed and work on a revision and get it to Heather by 7/26.

1. Wendy spoke about the town website and noted that she has set up a page for our committee and that she will add to it as we send things in and will send out email alerts when it is updated with new information.
2. We discussed the use of some other publicity avenues including a Facebook page and dedicated email address which we AGREED and Diane offered to move forward with. Already in the works is a newspaper article.

EVENT UPDATES

1. Lydia reported that \$260 was raised through donations and a donation by "Friends of the Library" toward the purchase of their history book read "Mostly My Maine". Rosanne said she would put Lydia in touch with Jim Staples who visits Eliot regularly and possibly would deliver them which would lower the cost.
2. Rosanne reported that Eleanor Pearsall has agreed to have her "Eliot Scrapbooks" - one each month - available during the year to be viewed at the William Fogg Library.
3. Discussed again the giving out of collectable tokens to the children at Bicentennial Events. It was suggested that perhaps it might be better to have the sponsoring group/organization pay for their own tokens since this Committee has no funds. Diane will get to Rosanne information on where the Elementary teachers had their wooden tokens made and will share this info with sponsoring groups.
4. Discussed the hope to be part of the MAINE STATE PARADE to be held on May 2, 2020 in Lewiston, Maine and how that might be facilitated. Perhaps a group such as the Boy and Girl Scouts will take that on as a project. made.
5. Rosanne reported that the Maine Bicentennial Committee is calling for a STATEHOOD WEEKEND - March 14 and 15th. As one of the events they are looking for communities to hold a Saturday night community bean supper where there could be donations for a food pantry; historical presentation; or

other. Discussed that perhaps the Historical Society might consider doing a bean supper in place of their lasagna dinner in March.

6. Discussed the William Fogg Library's "Dr. Fogg Birthday celebration" in May and that they are thinking of doing their ice cream social that day. It was suggested that perhaps there could be fireworks that evening?
7. Discussed further having a town/Elementary School event for Maine Statehood Day in March much like was done for our own Bicentennial.
8. Jan reported that the town manager was especially interested in the idea of the planting of trees and a time-capsule. Wendy said she would discuss this with him further.
9. Jan reported that she is meeting with Mr. Caverly (SAD 35) and is hoping to get a go-ahead re: the involvement of the High School students and possible announcement to teachers re: The Bicentennial.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

1. Jane Robbins joined in for discussion about Eliot Festival Day and also gave some helpful suggestions as to how we could better reach the heads of organizations and get their cooperation; the possibility of exciting people by encouraging friendly competition between organizations; encouraging organizations to support each other's activities; the use of subcommittees to organize certain events and to facilitate events (such as one to approach businesses, etc. for fireworks donations); the importance of how we "word" things so to spark people's interest and excitement.
2. Discussed Eliot Festival Day and its central role in our celebration to help unite the community and the bringing back of Fireworks; the need, but lack of, children's activities now that Community Service no longer does them; that the Fireworks would probably be better for Saturday night now that the Library has been using Friday nights for its community event; the Sunday dinner at Green Acre and with school the next day it would not be good for there to be a late night event. NOTED: that Cathy Runey is in charge of the parade for Eliot Festival Day and Cindi Waters is the head of the Committee.
3. Discussed the need now to go back to those who already showed interest and get commitments!
 - Next meeting: August 19th. 5PM at the William Fogg Library

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne M. Adams, Sec/