

East Windsor 250
Special Meeting
8-4-2016

The August 4, 2016 planning meeting for the 250th Anniversary Celebration of East Windsor met on the future patio of the Osborn House at the East Windsor Historical Society.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Attendance:

Present: *Paul Anderson, *Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, Timothy Easter, Scott Grizey, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, *Peg Hoffman, Michael Hunt, *Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, Kirk Montstream, Frances Neill, Richard Pippin, Patricia Shary, Wayne Shary, Debbie Talamini, *Rebecca Talamini, *Tom Talamini, *Bill Thim, and *Lynne Tracy-Thim.

*indicates steering committee members

Tom Talamini and Lynne Tracy-Thim were appointed as official members of the steering committee. Jason Bowsza administered the oath to the committee. There is one committee position left to fill.

Vice-Chairperson Elected: Rebecca Talamini suggested we should have a vice-chairperson who could run the meetings if she is unavailable.

Paul Anderson made a motion to nominate Jason Bowsza as vice-chairperson of the EW 250 committee. Bill Thim seconded the motion.

Motion Passed unanimously.

Minutes Read: The minutes from the July 21, 2016 meeting were reviewed.

Paul Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jason Bowsza seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Seed Money: On July 19, 2016 the Town Selectmen approved \$10,000 seed money for our 250th Anniversary Committee; the Finance Board approved the spending on July 20, 2016.

Community Day: Rebecca Talamini, Jason Bowsza, and Laura Harney attended the community day meeting. They talked about doing a large combined event in 2018: the final parade/picnic and community day events together. Community Day is usually around the third Saturday of September.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Members: We are hoping to fill the ninth and final committee position with someone in the school system, a member of the Board of Education or the PTO. We hope to make the final appointment at the next Selectmen's meeting on August 16, 2016.

250th Logo: The Logo Committee shared ideas they had for our 250th Anniversary logo. Generally people liked a logo with a town building and a 250th ribbon. Also considered was a town seal with the 250th ribbon. We will have two versions of one design: one in full color and one black and white only. The Logo Committee will bring a few designs to the Historical Society's Ice Cream Social on August 13, 2016 to get an idea of the public's opinion. The Logo Committee will have a decision by the end of August. Logo Committee: Paul Anderson, John Burnham, Kirk Montstream, and Rebecca Talamini.

Local Businesses: We should try to hire local businesses for our products and services. Does East Windsor have a sign company or a printing company?

Time Capsule: The 50-year time capsule was buried on May 19, 1968; from the town hall steps it is to the left of the flag in the grass. The time capsule will be dug up on January 1, 2018 and taken to different event sites until it is opened on Saturday, May 19, 1968. We may hold a special town meeting for the opening. To increase interest, we can have people try to guess what is in the time capsule, and we can have a raffle fundraiser to decide who gets to open the time capsule. The time capsule committee will need to find a replacement capsule to be buried in 2018 and a means of transportation for the two capsules to the 250th events. Time Capsule Committee: Jason Bowsza, John Burnham, and Kirk Montstream.

Fundraising Committee: The fundraising committee would like a process in place and in writing for how we are going to get the funds raised to the town account. Diane Lajoie will check with the town treasurer. We also need a clearly defined plan for where any excess money will go once the 250th events are complete. We have a number of ideas about where the excess money could go; we need a final decision approved by the steering committee. Our projected fundraising target is \$100,000. Possible fundraising ideas include an auction, selling buttons, and commemorative coins. Finance Committee: John Burnham, Laura Harney, Andy Hoffman, and Kirk Montstream.

Promotion and Merchandise Committee: We discussed possible ideas for merchandise to sell; most, if not all, will have the 250th committee logo. The ideas are below:

- Car magnet
- Serialized coins
- Collector coins: one for each village
- Polo shirts for the volunteers
- T-shirts
- Mason jar glasses
- Coloring books of East Windsor locations and buildings
- Then and now calendar
- An Event Wall Calendar—this calendar should be ready for sale by the 2017 Four Town Fair.

Promotion & Merchandise Committee: Scott Grizey & Peg Hoffman

Parade and Picnic Committee: The Parade and Picnic to end our 250th celebrations will coincide with Community Day 2018. Parade and Picnic Committee: Laura Haney and Diane Lajoie

Social Media Committee: Rebecca Talamini will create a 250th Facebook page. Social Media Committee: Diane Lajoie, Bob Maynard, and Rebecca Talamini

Print Advertising Committee: Paul Anderson will create a starter banner to use at the August 13, 2016 Ice Cream Social. We will have more permanent banner made when the logo is chosen. Print Advertising Committee: Paul Anderson and Peg Hoffman

NEW BUSINESS:

Recording the Celebration: Frank Dieziak, the owner of Dari Delight, is a hobby photographer; he can be at events as needed. Tim Easter has also volunteered to photograph the 250th events.

We should invest in a good still and movie camera to record all 250th events.

We should also have disposable cameras at events for participants to take photos for us. The cameras are available on Amazon 20 for \$110.

Suggestion Box: We should bring a suggestion box to all events we visit this year.

Raffle Administrator: John Burnham suggested we should pay an administrator to run the raffle. This person would be responsible for accounting for the money, tickets, and all of the paperwork with the state. Jason Bowsza is going to check with the state on the raffle rules.

Planning Committee: The planning committee will include Laura Harney, Diane Lajoie, and Debbie Talamini, Lynn Tracy-Thim. It is time to start gathering ideas and setting up an events calendar. If we are going to have any balls/dinners we need to plan the dates now. We should gather information about places in town where we can hold such events.

Advertising and Press Committee: The advertising and press committee will be responsible for releasing press releases to the local newspapers and radio stations. Our goal is to bring people from all over to visit East Windsor and see what we have to offer. The Advertising and Press Committee will also invite local reporters to cover our events throughout the year.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Event Ideas: We are in the process of compiling ideas for possible events in 2018, including creating a month-to-month list of the events that currently happen in town. Events will be planned by local businesses and organizations in town; the events will be coordinated by the Planning Committee. Here are a few ideas that were brought up at the August 8th meeting:

- A New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball on 12-31-2017
- A scavenger hunt/passport program involving the town's small businesses or sponsoring businesses
- An old-school sporting event including the old rules and uniforms
- All town recreational sporting events will play by the old rules; the teams will have the 250th logo on all of their t-shirts.
- A fashion show (held at the opera house?) featuring outfits from 2018 back to 1768
- The girl scouts' ice skating rink
- Poster Contest for the elementary/middle schools
- 2016 Community Day: slogan contest- ideas: nifty, nifty looks who's 250; be seen in 2018. We need to bring our own tables and chairs to community day this year.
- ReMax Balloon Rides
- House Tour: We can charge people for the tour. We have a 1912 Sears House in Melrose. We can give tours of houses built in all different decades.
- Outdoor concert
- Village Day- one per month for five months. Village Day will highlight history of the given village and showcase what it currently has to offer.
- Veteran's event- honor the town veterans and thank them
- Wayne Shary's sister Laverne was the Queen of the Bicentennial in 1968. We would love it if she passed the crown to the 2018 Queen.
- Local Farm to Table dinner: include Broad Brook Brewing Company beer; Broad Brook Beef, East Windsor Vegetables and fruit, etc.
- A Trolley Museum event.

Paul Anderson made a motion to adjourn. Bill Thim seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Lajoie