

Ludlow M, Ma 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration

Meeting Minutes, Monday March 7, 2022

Town Hall of Ludlow, Ma meeting room 1

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2022 MAR 28 A 8: 21

TOWN OF LUDLOW

1. Establish of Quorum/ Roll Call

Committee Members in Attendance: Linda (Chapman) Collette, Butch Reginer, Bruce Durand, Lori Hanson, Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman, Walter Craven, Anthony Curto, Rob Burek, Karen Pilon, Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette, Paul Charzan, Derek DeBarge

Guest in Attendance: Ray Parylak, Police Lieutenant Dave Irwin, Police Chief Dan Valadas

2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm

*Motion to accept the minutes of the Meeting on February 24, 2022, made by Kathy Ouimette 2nd by Butch Reginer. All in favor, Motion passed. Walter Craven abstained.

3. Old Business

Town Meeting February 28, 2022

* Linda Collette said the feedback from the meeting was good and felt it was a success for the 1st meeting

*Walter Craven was surprised at the turnout which was about a 100 people. He also commented that the Facebook page which had a video of the meeting had 81/83 views

*There are 2 Facebook pages for the committee, 1 is for the public called **Ludlow Mass 250th**, and the 2nd one is for the committee to communicate called **Ludlow, MA 250th Celebration Committee**. Please invite friends and family to join the Ludlow Mass 250th group only.

*The administrators for the pages are, Elaine Hodgeman, Linda Collette, Kathy Ouimette, Walter Craven

*There were lots of compliments about the meeting. Patrick McGowan, Director of the Hubbard Memorial Library has received numerous phone calls about people wanting to stop by and see his digital prints and other historical information.

*Butch Reginer was also pleased with the turnout for the meeting along with all the other committee members.

*The parade was the big hit of the night and drew the interest of many who would like to volunteer, Bruce Durand was the man of the night, fielding many questions about the parade.

*Police Chief Valadas commented he would have liked to see younger people attend the meeting, and the committee agreed. We will have to work on getting younger people involved.

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Linda Collette and Kathy Ouimette were planning to go to the Senior center ~~to bring them to the town~~ Meeting, the week before, but Jody director of Senior Center had a conflict. They are planning to go another day in the very near future. Walter Craven suggested also taking it to Keystone Community Anthony Curto suggested taking to the High School students as an assembly to see if we could draw student involvement. Dr Kosher and Jim Martin would have to tailor the meeting for these venues.

4. New Business

* Mike Hill from LCTV would like to see if he can get some of his students from his Multimedia class to help the committee with interviews of older towns people and other videos the committee may need.

* Elaine Hodgman checked with Town Accountant Elsy about the \$50,000 dollars the committee received at the town meeting. The funds are not yet available, they are ARPA funds.

* Paul Charzan asked LPD Chief Valadas if the committee would have to pay out of pocket for EMTS, Fire or Police presence at events. The Chief said no.

* Derek DeBarge and Linda Collette will talk to Jake Oliveira about their request form the state for \$50,00 dollars for the committee. The money received at the Town Meeting came from the ARPA act, and is different from the state monies they originally requested.

* Elaine Hodgeman asked that the treasurer be notified when the money is in the account. Elaine also handed out the tax-exempt number, for committee members to use when purchasing items for the committee. Its is not needed if you are purchasing items of an approved town vendor as they will already have the number.

* Linda Collette introduced Ray Parylak, he is a friend of Linda and her family. Ray's dad saved a lot of information about the town, when the family moved from Indian Orchard to Ludlow, included in these items were:

Town Mtg Notes form 1954 & 1955. Pictures of the Selectman Ludlow's Fire Dept. and Ludlow's Police Dept. Information about the 4 railroads and pictures that ran through Ludlow back in its early days. Also, newspaper articles and aerial shots of the Town that were hung in the old Police station when the renovations were being done. Some of these he received from Chief Jorge, Linda's uncle, and also Art Chapman, Linda's father. He also has pictures and booklets about the railroad that ran through Ludlow and up to Thorndike, this was talked about in Dr. Koshers meeting presentation. These items could be digitized by Patrick McGowan and used for the coffee table book the committee is planning on making. Ray's dad also had given some boxes of memorabilia to the Veterans Dept. and Paul Charzan will look through these to see if there is anything the committee could use. Ray also has a video of the history of the Indian Orchard and pics of Ludlow's Old Town Hall, police station and Trolley car station that was where the old Third National Bank in Indian Orchard was located. He has photos of the flood of 1938

going over the dam by the old Pieroways building. Ray also told the committee about a survey which was done in 1964. This was when the town was planning there was a foldout of this, which included plans for a Civic Center, Parks, Social Centers along with other things to do in the future. They were trying to plan for 25 years in the future. Linda and Ray will get together to go the material. Ray will also contact Patrick McGowan at the library with the thoughts of digitizing some of these artifacts. Ray also volunteered to go to the Springfield Republican Archives to see if he can find articles and pictures of the town.

* Question was asked if Ray Paralyk would retain these items as discussed or donate them to the library, there are about to 7 boxes. He was not sure currently, however Ray will graciously lend his items to the committee and the library for use in our archives, book, etc.

*Walter Craven suggested that he would like to use these pics and others on the Facebook page and website to keep the interest and momentum growing.

*Linda Collette created a list and spread sheet of all the info that was gathered at the town hall meeting, she will be forwarding this to all committee members through email.

*Elaine Hodgman contacted both breweries in town, Vanished Valley Brewing and Iron Duke Brewing, and they agree that they will make a special beer for the town 250th birthday. Derek DeBarge had previously contacted both breweries and they both agreed to creating a special brew for our 250th and will remain in contact with them.

*Paul Charzan is looking for corp. letters for sponsorship. He would like to set up a meeting with the Regional Manager of Cumberland Farms for Linda and himself. Cumberland Farms has been very generous in the past and would like to help this committee.

* Linda Collette and Paul Charzan need to get together with the Ludlow Country Club Board to talk about dates for the 250th Committee Golf Tournaments. The Committee would like to use both Ludlow and Westover golf Course. Both Course would be used at the same time and dates for the tournament. The Ludlow Country Club will not be back for meetings until April 2022.

*Paul Charzan found out that the Ludlow Country Club holds their annual 4 ball tournament on the weekend after Father's Day. The committee discussed moving the Parade away from that date in 2024. A motion was made by Walter Craven and 2nd by Kathy Ouimette. The committee voted unanimously to have the parade on June 15, 2024. Karen Pilon abstained from the vote as she will not be here for the parade. Chief Valadas feels this is a great date for the parade. The committee will investigate teaming up with Celebrate Ludlow to try and hold the Picnic right after the parade, so friends and families can make a day of it. This also allows people who travel to town for this parade to enjoy an entire day/evening of festivities.

*Bruce Durand will be the Parade Chairman and will be looking for volunteers for his committee. Linda Collette will email him the people who signed up as volunteers at the town hall meeting.

*The Parade will start at 10am and will be 2.5 miles. There will be shuttle buses to bring the marchers back to the High School, where the Parade will start off from. The police will march in the parade but with less officers, as the auxiliary police currently has less staff. The chief will request assistance from surrounding towns, State Police and the Sheriffs dept.

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*Rob Burek was asked if he would assist in getting pics for The Registers Then & Now section as we need to keep showcasing historical pictures and information for publication.

*Karen Pilon created a coloring book with Maggie Lavoie back in 2002. Anthony Curto purchased one at the town clerk and showed it to the committee. Walter Craven suggested that we sell them on our website for a 4- or 5-dollar fee. They sell at Town Clerks office for \$3 dollars, so this would have to be addressed at the Board of Selectman Meeting. Karen mentioned that she has numerous cases of this book stored at her home. She made a suggestion that the town may donate them to the younger elementary aged children, ages K-2nd graders, which would need to be approved by the Board of Selectman.

*A townspeople asked at the Town hall meeting if events would only be held in the year 2024. Linda Collette suggested that we plan events for the end of 2022 and a few for 2023 because we need to raise funds through our own events. She asked the committee to come up with ideas. Please refer to Linda's original document with thoughts, ideas and suggestions. Linda would like to start an event to be held at the Our Lady of Fatima church's Festa, held on Labor Day weekend, selling 250th merchandise such as t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats and mugs, both travel and coffee mugs.

*It was suggested that fundraising would be better done in person than by email or phone calls. The Business list that Kathy Ouimette sent out would help get info for sponsorship, so the committee still needs to work on getting correct information on the businesses on the list, due by the end of March. There are 5 committee members that feel comfortable enough to go out and try to get sponsors, an members would take shifts with 2-3 members at each shift, to be determined later.

* Walter Craven will start working on a tiered sponsorship letter and sponsors for specific events.

*The committee will send out Thank you cards to Bill Kosher, Jim Martin, Patrick McGowan, FT Custom Printing and Jake Oliveira, Tim Brillo and Dunkin' Donuts.

*The town's annual Memorial Parade will be a little different this year, as a candlelight vigil will be held the evening before, and the parade will start at 10:00 am on Memorial Day, May 30th. Linda Collette suggested that the 250th Committee should march. The committee will need to get shirts and a banner made, Linda will get prices for these items, present to the committee and get ordered.

*Linda Collette spoke to Brandon Smith, Operations Manager for the Western Mass Pioneers about using their field for a family movie night. He looks forward to working with the committee.

* Kathy Ouimette will ask the folks in area towns who also put on movie nights about how they obtain permission to show a movie.

*Walter Craven is looking for new video or pictures for the website and Facebook page, Ray Parylak said he had a film about Westover AFB. Another suggestion was to see if we could use Chip Harrington Jute Mill Movie, this could also be used by LCTV to promote the committee. Keeping the Facebook page fresh and updated will be done with a new post every week or so.

*Meeting Place for the Parade committee - Bruce Durand will contact the town hall about using a meeting room there so that his parade committee can begin planning immediately. Bruce suggests going to banks and corporations to sponsor specific acts such as the Mummers, The Spirit of America, etc. Bruce will figure out the expenses of the Parade and then present it to the Fundraising Committee.

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There will be no political signs allowed in the parade. No exceptions. A person running for office may sponsor a group in the parade in which their name may be seen as the sponsor, however no "Vote for XXX" will be allowed.

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*There will be one group to raise money for all the events. The committee will consist of Butch Regnier, Paul Charzan, Walter Craven and Kathy Ouimette, **although all of committee members will still work on fundraising in some way, for we as a committee are ALL responsible for raising funds for our events.** The committee will craft solicitation letters, one for general letter for all events, and a specific letter for special events and sponsorship. Walter Craven will work on a tiered fundraising sheet, 1 page 2 sides for presenting to potential sponsors.

*Lori Hanson asked Bruce if there are plans for a Bagpipe group in the parade. Other committee members liked this, and Bruce said he would see if he could get one.

Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:15pm by Anthony Curto 2nd by Walter Craven, all in favor, motion passed.

Next Committee Meeting is March 24, 2022, at Ludlow Hubbard Memorial Library at 5:30 pm.

250th Semi-Quincentennial Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Anthony Curto.