

Ludlow, MA 250TH Semi-Quincentennial Celebration
Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 9, 2022

Hubbard Memorial Library

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TOWN OF LUDLOW

1. Establish of Quorum/Roll Call

Committee Members: Linda (Chapman) Collette, Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette, Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman, Bruce Durand, Walter Craven, Butch Regnier, Joe Lupa, Bob Mishol
Guest Sally Sullivan

2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

3. Old Business

Meeting minutes were not accepted due to some typos. Anthony Curto will make corrections and will be voted at the next meeting.

Car Show, Town Hall Meeting Assignments, Memorial Day Parade, Birthday Cake, Firework

Bob Mishol asked if the raffle at the Elks car show could be a Chinese Raffle. Says it would take time then having winners come up and pick a prize. After discussion it was decided, they would talk to Paul to see how the Elks club would like to handle this. Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman brought up the issue of selling raffle tickets 1-5\$, 7-5\$, 15-10\$ and 35-20\$ after a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Bruce Durand to sell 1 ticket for 1\$ and 12 tickets for 10\$ this was 2nd by Bob Mishol. At the end of the discussion Walter Craven stated that we should go along with what Paul Chrzan suggested and stated at the last committee meeting. This event was donated by Paul Chrzan.

This motion Passed with Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman and Walter Craven being opposed.

The committee will have to go through the crowd to sell raffle tickets. Linda will bring a banquet table and banner along with flyers and volunteer and sponsorship forms. Walter said tickets would need to be sold quickly as people come to the car show to look at cars, mingle, take pictures and drink. So, the cars do not stay all night. This is what Paul Chrzan had stated at the previous meeting.

4. New Business

Bruce Durand reported on the Memorial Day Parade. Reginia Stanek and Bruce Durand were parade Marshals, they worked in the staging area and assisted in lining up the marchers and floats. They found a couple of units out of place and assisted in getting them back in their spots. When the parade started, they traveled the route in a golf cart noticing that the spacing was larger than should be. Bruce Durand spoke with Eric Segundo after

the parade and agreed to help next year providing more Marshals. Eric Segundo stated he would like more music for next year's parade. Bruce Durand contacted the Great American Band and was informed that a 12-piece band would cost \$1900. Walter Craven suggested that the 250th Semi-Quincentennial committee use next year's parade as a teaser/kickoff/ Petri for the parade in 2024. Maybe providing a band for the Memorial Day parade. Bruce Durand told us that the Mummer's group would be \$10,000, which would most likely be cost prohibitive. Linda (Chapman) Collette suggested we look for a sponsor for a marching band that would be much less expensive. Bruce will continue to search for a band, and consider another local town high school marching band.

250th Parade

Bruce is planning on having the LHS Band, Baird Middle School Band, Polish American String Band, Mummies, Fife & Drum, Kiltie Band, Drum & Bugle Corp. He wants the parade to be a well-rounded musical experience. Contracts cannot be sent out until 2024 due to the fuel cost. The however he is already lining up musical bands. The Marksmen would be in different parade and different years, depending on who was willing to pay the most. Linda (Chapman) Collette suggested we could try to assist Eric Segundo attract sponsors for the Memorial Day Parade.

Bruce Durand , parade Chairman, reported on who is on the parade committee which is all volunteer. Bob Mishol is Assistant Chair, Anthony Curto Secretary & Float committee, Regina Stanek Parade Marshal, Linda Belisle Marshal, Sally Sullivan, Mary Beth Silvia, John Diotalevi, Betsy Kosher. A few members can't serve full time but will be kept informed by sending agenda and meeting minutes. Bruce Durand is continuing to search for a music coordinator. He is hoping to get volunteers from the Town Meeting. There will be a board with post it notes for people to sign up, like at the first 250th Town Hall meeting. The Ludlow High School and Town Hall will be staging area for marchers. Floats and Shriners will be staged at Baird Middle School.

The Parade committee has a new member Mark-----. Bruce noted that you don't have to be a town resident to serve on the committee. Parade meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Currently the 250th Facebook page does not allow comments or messages, Linda (Chapman) Collette asked to turn on the comments so people could volunteer on Facebook and she would like to be able to post an interactive poll (which currently is not set up for doing so). Walter stated that there is no staff to manage messenger and didn't want negative comments to appear on the web page. It was suggested that the committee set up email accounts at Ludlow Ma 250 @Gmail.com. This way if people wanted to volunteer, they could contact an individual. Walter Craven reminded the group that all electronic messaging is archived for 10 years so to be careful of what subjects are discussed. Linda asked Walter to add Bruce Durand and Joe Lupa be added as admins for our Facebook page so that they can post as needed. Joe will be a great addition to help monitor our page.

Facebook Page/ Web Page

Linda asked Walter to add Bruce Durand and Joe Lupa as admins for our Facebook page so that they can post as needed. Joe will be a great addition to help monitor our page. Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman has still not gained access as an administrator. Walter Craven will set it up for Bruce Durand and Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman, and Joe Lupa to be added as administrators.

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Sponsorship

Linda (Chapman) Collette has received a verbal commitment from People's Bank, that they will donate a total of \$30,000 to the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Ludlow Celebration committee. It will come in increments of \$10,000 in the years 2022, 2023, 2024. A 501 (c)(3) will be needed) and will need to file for a grant. 501 (c) (3) could be created as "Friends of the 250th parade committee" or similar name. This would allow donations to go right in an account to pay for the parade and other expenses associated with any or all events. Bruce Durand stated that he has filed for 2 different 501(c)(3) accounts, one for Scouts which took about 3 months and another for the Silver Knights drum and Bugle Corp which took about 5 months. The 1st step would be to file with the state as a non-profit organization. Linda (Chapman) Collette would like to ask at the Town Meeting if there is anyone that is willing to help work on this for the committee. Walter Craven stated that he thinks it will be tough to get someone with covid, fuel cost and winter coming to attend meetings and commit to this project. This 501(3)(c) status is very important to secure sponsorship's. Joe Lupa and Bruce Durand are willing to work together on getting people and paperwork for the 501 (3)(c). Anyone who wants to seek sponsorships for the committee should let Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette or Linda (Chapman) Collette know so we are not all asking the same people. Linda (Chapman) Collette and Paul Chzran will be setting up a meeting with Cumberland Farms soon. Joe Lupa came up with a rough draft of a Letter of request to be used to for sponsorships. He asked the committee to think about this and add any input or thoughts to this letter and the next meeting. He also has a connection to an attorney that may be able to assist us in setting up the 501(3)(c). **GREAT JOB JOE.**

Town Hall Meeting

Mr. Bill Rooney will be the guest speaker, he plans on speaking for approximately for 45 minutes. Patrick McGowan will also show some slides from Ludlow's early Days which he has digitized. Bruce Durand will introduce the Parade committee and will speak for about 10 minutes with a power point display of different parades. Set up will be done by all the committee. Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette has contacted The Ludlow Register, The Reminder, LCTV and has notified the schools of the meeting. She has also made arrangements for the microphones in the auditorium and cafeteria. Linda (Chapman) Collette is hoping that The Ludlow Register and The Reminder will send a staff person to report on this event. If not, we can always send in photos and a small article written by a committee member. LCTV will tape the event to be shown on Ludlow Access TV. Flyers will be created by Linda, sponsorship forms and volunteer forms will be available. Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette asked for help storing bottled water in a refrigerator, Joe Lupa will take the water and

store it. Bruce Durand has volunteered to bring a cooler with ice to keep it cold. Bruce Durand gave Linda (Chapman) Collette a flash drive to give to Patrick McGowan so he can create a power point for Bruce Durand. Bruce Regnier and Bob Mishol will be greeters. Walter Craven will help with getting LCTV set up (Walter is a Springfield Thunderbirds season ticket holder so if there is a playoff game that night he would help as much as he can but would have to leave for the game.) Clean up will be by all committee members: 36

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5. Treasurers Report

Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman reported that there is \$49, 037.95 in the account. The 1st half of the ARP money that was secured by Jake Oliveira \$25,000 has arrived. There is no date yet on the 2nd half of the money when it will arrive. Linda (Chapman) Collette stated that although the Towns budget for 2023 has been set, she will be going to ask the Town for another \$25,000 in the 2024 budget to offset the cost of many town wide events. Walter Craven said this might be a tough ask with money being tight in the Town Budget. But Linda (Chapman) Collette said we can ask, and hope that the Board of Selectman will approve!

6. Open Discussion

Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman stated that The Ludlow Register said the 250th Semi-Quincentennial committee would be at the Tasty Tuesday food Trucks at Ludlow High School on June 21, 2022. This is the same date as the car show at the Elks club. Linda (Chapman) Collette was hoping the committee could split up in to 2 groups and cover both events. Walter Craven, Bob Mishol and Sally Sullivan volunteered to be at the Ludlow High School Event. Linda, Kathy, Paul, Bruce and Elaine will participate at the Car Show. Both events would have a Banner and flyers along with volunteer and sponsor forms.

Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman contacted the Wachusett Muster league. They do travel and do events in various places. They told her they would need a 2-year head start if possible. Bruce Durand brought up the issue if we would be able to run a concession stand. Joe Lupa brought up the issue of liability with an event like this and who would be responsible for the insurance. Ludlow Fire dept. does not have a team but there was one in Monson, MA called the Monson Bellmen. Elaine (Lewison) Hodgman is waiting for a return phone call to get more information. Further discussion on this will happen as information becomes available.

Joe Lupa brought up the issue of changing the tiered sponsorship form. He mentioned using different names for the donation levels to make it more personal \$50, 000 and up possibly called Solidarity. Joe asked the committee to look over his suggestions and discuss at the next meeting.

John DaCruz was brought up as a possibility to help with the 501 (3) (c). Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette asked if we could wait to contact anybody until after the Town Hall Meeting that way, we could get input from Bill Rooney.

Joe Lupa stated that Lupa's Zoo would be open to holding events there. Joe Lupa suggested an event at the zoo call "Zootiful" or similar. Light food maybe a cocktail party type event. He also suggested maybe having a meeting or gathering there to look over the facilities. Linda (Chapman) Collette thought it was a great idea but would not be an official meeting due to public meeting guidelines. It was also brought up to use the zoo for a bike rodeo possibly in 2023. Could ask Sheriff's dept and Bob the Bike Man to help. Tune up bikes, teach safety and provide helmets and maybe raffle off a bike. Zoo capacity is unknown currently.

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Joe Lupa brought up an idea of holding a Solidarity walk in town. Could bring all the churches and religious groups in town for a community walk. It was suggested that we go with multi-cultures rather than religion. It would provide a sense of community, unity and appreciation for our differences.

People's Bank is willing to provide an intern for the 250th Semi-Quincentennial to use for the summer. This person could help with public relations and social media like TikTok, Twitter, Instagram and snap chat. Walter Craven will be updating the Facebook page and webpage in a couple of weeks, when his schedule a work becomes a little lighter. Linda (Chapman) Collette would like to see the Facebook page have a poll set up. Mike Hill from LCTV suggested to Linda (Chapman) Collette to check out the interviews Chip Harrington did call "My Town" to see if in his interviews there is anything we could use. She also thought we could use young and older townspeople in our interview series. It was suggested with Walter Craven being busy that we could use another person to help on the interviews. Butch Regnier volunteered and said he would help anyway he could.

7. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy (Hurley) Ouimette at 7:32, it was 2nd by Bruce Durand Motion was Carried.

Upcoming Events

Car Show at Elks Club on Tuesday June 21, 2022

Tasty Tuesday Food Trucks at Ludlow High School June 21, 2022

The Minutes of the 250th Semi-Quincentennial have been respectfully submitted by Anthony T. Curto, Secretary for the 250th Semi- Quincentennial Celebration Committee.