

Rush Bicentennial Committee

Minutes – February 13, 2017

Present: Andy Morse, Dave Sluberski, Rita McCarthy, Chris Miller, Linda Henry, Pam Ebersold, Sue Swanton, Sue Mee

Committee Updates:

- Andy Morse reported that Bruce O'Neill would be happy to donate and plant a pine tree for the Town Hall grounds. This will be used for what we hope will become an annual tree lighting ceremony and Christmas caroling. Andy will follow up with Bruce regarding a recommended variety and size. Thank you!

Andy also noted that Ed Conklin plans to paint the gazebo in the Veterans Memorial Park this spring/summer.

- Sue Swanton: Sue and Sue Mee met with Cynthia Howk, Landmark Society, in January to discuss planning a house tour. The tour will consist of approximately 20 houses, hopefully also including a Wells barn. If possible, 10 houses will be open for first floor tours. Cynthia provided several suggestions and strategies for the house tour. Sue M. has asked the Town Attorney about insurance coverage should any mishaps occur. He is looking into the matter.
- Chris Miller reported that the FD Ladies Auxiliary would like to create a cookbook for the Bicentennial year. This will be a supplemental packet that can be added to the Rush Seniors cookbook. The Seniors still have about 75 copies available of their cookbook so those will be available for purchase as well.
- Dave Sluberski: Contacted the Rochester Brooks Gun Club. There does not seem to be interest on behalf of the Gun Club in sponsoring a Rush Day in 2018.
- Sue Mee reported that she had contacted the costume department at Genesee Country Museum regarding the possibility of renting period clothing. They do allow this on occasion but are not really in a position to easily do so. Many of their staff own their own costumes. GVCM was able to provide the names of period pattern companies. Rita offered to contact Cheryl Diana, theater teacher at RH, regarding the possibility of borrowing costumes. It is anticipated that period clothing will be needed for the re-enactment of the first Town Board meeting and proclamation; re-enactment of early settlers, gala event, parades.

New Discussion:

- Chris Miller: Will organize a bonnet sewing event for Fall 2017 so that those interested will have bonnets for the Bicentennial year. Chris will arrange a Fall date in the Pavillion.
- Fall Festival – 10/7/2017. Promote Bicentennial events in a hand-out/flyer.
- First Town Board Re-enactment and Proclamation: Invite past Town Supervisors? Other government representatives from Assembly and Congress. This event will likely be held at Leary School for a large enough space.
- Tree Lighting Ceremony: Suggested that the RH Singers be invited. Rita offered to contact RH regarding this request.
- Memorial Day Parade: Possibly Rush would march in Henrietta parade and Henrietta in Rush parade since both towns will be celebrating their Bicentennial years in 2018 and their parades are on different dates. Also for Firemen's parade?
- Book project: Sue S. and Sue M. Sue M. has discussed with Cathy and the Town Clerk's office can serve as a drop off location for those submitting content for the book. The next newsletter will ask for a volunteer to help with the layout of the book project. Need to also solicit advertisements to underwrite the cost of the book/booklet.
- Duck Races: This event was discussed further and consideration of optimal date was reviewed. Without tying this activity to another event, it was felt it would not be successful. Committee agreed to cancel this activity.

Team Leads:

- Bicentennial Book Project: Sue Swanton, Sue Mee
- House/Barn Tour: Sue Swanton, Linda Henry, Sue Mee
- Scavenger Hunt: Sue Swanton, Library sponsored activity
- Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad – Fall Foliage Ride – Rita McCarthy
- Video Compilation of Past History Talks/Presentations: Dave Sluberski
- Historical Society: Sue Mee
- Early Settlers Re-enactment: Sue Mee, Bonnie Meath-Lang
- Church Involvement – Linda Henry
- Tree Lighting: Tree donation – Andy Morse, RH Singers – Rita McCarthy
- Memoir Writing: Sue Mee
- Community Heritage Scanning Event: Sue Mee, Dave Sluberski
- Paula Whitacre Talk and Book Signing: Sue Mee
- Baseball Game between Rush and Henrietta Fire Departments: Tina Thompson, Sue Mee
- School House Tours (Rush and Henrietta): Tina Thompson, Sue Mee
- Gala Event: Sue Mee
- Town Board Proclamation: -Script: Sandra Sluberski