

Lyme Independence Day Committee meeting 5-4-2015

Attendees: JJ Pippin, Patty Jenks, James Graham, Matt Brown, Maryellen Corliss, Sarah Crockett

The meeting came to order at 7:35

The conversation immediately turned to fundraising. Maryellen asked how many letters would be sent in the planned town-wide mailing. Patty said there were about 800 residences on the mailing list. Matt asked about the logistics of doing the mailing and Patty explained that Dina in the town office has a list and that Maryellen should contact Dina to discuss how labels can be produced, including the possibility of using the Town's account at staples for supplies.

Patty suggested using the listserv as a preliminary to the mailing. She also suggested targeting businesses in Lyme with a mailing before sending to all residents with the idea of saving some money on the mailing.

James presented a draft of the fundraising letter soliciting comments and corrections. Sarah asked specifically to remove mention of not having fireworks.

Sarah turned the conversation towards fireworks asking why we couldn't have them. She went on to share information regarding a roughly \$2500 fireworks display using Elaine Neal's property as a staging area. James expressed concern about the committee spending time on producing a fireworks display that did not, as of yet, have approval from the Select board. Patty suggested that Sarah investigate that project on her own.

Matt steered the conversation back to fundraising and other possible options in addition to a direct mailing. JJ offered to make phone calls. There was discussion about creating a program for the day and selling advertising space.

James said he would refine the letter with the help of Karen Keane who is a professional fundraiser. He will send the letter to the Lyme listserv and for inclusion in the Lyme Town Ministry newsletter (deadline next Monday, May 11th) and the Lyme School newsletter.

Matt and James reported on their meeting with the Select Board.

- a decision on the tent size will be put off until the June 15th meeting when more is known about the size of the event based on the funds raised.
- a nominal fee should be charged to vendors who will be selling food on the common (the committee agreed that \$15 was appropriate).
- the committee will not have to pay for policing the event from the funds it raises.

Regarding music, James reported that the Lyme Town Band is committed to the event for a fee of \$350.

Regarding the parade, Sarah said she will send out a request to the listserv for volunteers and participants along with registration instructions.

Regarding recruiting volunteers for the event for directing traffic, the committee decided to postpone that discussion for the June 1st meeting.

Regarding food for the event, including the potluck, the committee decided to postpone that discussion for the May 18th meeting.

Matt offered that the minister of the Lyme Congregationalist Church was interested in using the tents for an outdoor service on Sunday the 5th. The committee agreed that this would be fine especially in light of the help the church is providing towards the overall event.

The matter of the Horseshed Arts and Crafts Fair project was discussed. Patty shared the idea that perhaps it might work better for another organization to sponsor this event. It was thought that perhaps the Lyme Congregational Church might be a more appropriate sponsor as they own the building. Matt agreed to inquire of this possibility.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 18th at the Firehouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Submitted respectfully,

James Graham, secretary