

4th July Committee Phone Conference Call Meeting 5/6/20

Members joining in meeting: Doug Phelps, Alita Phelps, Donna Smith, Jane Slayton, Jen Bent, Kevin Goodwin, Beth Frost and guest, Ginny Edwards from the Andover Lions Club. Meeting called to order about 7:21 PM. Doug had emailed the Minutes of last meeting to all (and Beth had sent to all earlier). Doug made a motion to accept the Minutes and Donna seconded. All voted in favor.

First thing, Doug asked the question: what are your feelings regarding having the 4th celebration this year in lieu of the current pandemic? Jen immediately said "No, we should not have it." Others chipped in with the same sentiments, also mentioning that 5 fairs have already been cancelled and that the Town of Salisbury has cancelled their 4th celebration. Donna said she thinks we have no choice but to cancel. It was unanimous among all to cancel the entire event. (Judy Perreault had emailed Doug. She couldn't join us but felt we should cancel, but still have the raffle....in fact, she said legally we have to have the raffle since we have announced it. Wood had also emailed with same thoughts that we must cancel, but he thought we could still do fireworks.) All agreed tho, that the fireworks are out, too.

Doug asked Ginny if the pancake breakfast would take place and she said no. Ideas were tossed around about a virtual 4th, with maybe a pancake recipe contest....or a creative pancake contest. Ideas for the virtual were: slide show of old 4th pictures, patriotic pics send in by folks of decorating their yards and/or kids decorating bikes, raffle items w/tickets being sold at local stores, kids coloring contest. Also, have last year's parade shown on local tv channel. Jen said that she feels we should keep this virtual simple with not a lot on it. Her reason is that teachers and students are going to be sick of virtual school by the 4th and are not going to be looking at a virtual 4th on a summer day. We all agreed with that,,,,,we need to keep the website simple.

Jen suggested we put a big sign up on the Village Green saying the event is cancelled....worded cleverly...something like "together/apart".

Doug had emailed the Revolutionary War guys asking if they would contribute something to a virtual celebration.....like having one of their members dress up in the costume from that War and explaining about it.

Financials Discussed. We need to:

- 1) Get deposit back from fireworks company
- 2) Send cancellation notices to vendors. Doug will do.
- 3) Return \$ to anyone who has given us a deposit for a booth or whatever
- 4) No \$ have been received yet regarding the parade and no \$ paid out. Donna will notify all those people of the cancellation.
- 5) Return any sponsor money.....they might tell us to keep that.

We discussed the booklets. Maybe title it "The Year the 4th Didn't Happen". We would not have any ads in it but pictures of old celebrations. Would have the usual history and the

dedication....this year to Howard & Elly George. Include a thank you to the Town. Jen will have a student do the cover again. We could somehow spread the word to townspeople to send us pics to include.....maybe have papers in JJ's Market for folks to write a memory to share and get it to Jen. Maybe have posters around town with same info and an ad in the next Beacon. Jen said she can set up a Google Doc for all to share and people can put info/memories there. This all needs to be done soon as booklets need to be sent to press in early June. We won't need Steve Foley to help us. Jen has a friend (an artist, I think) who will help her with the booklets. Kevin will find out what Program the Shopper uses and let Jen know.

Doug will notify Proctor about the cancellation.

Here is what was agreed we will do:

- 1) Someone needs to talk to Bob Norander about showing last year's parade on the local channel on the 4th. Jane said she will take care of that.
- 2) Slide show on a 4th website. Doug & Alita will do this.
- 3) Have kids draw or write about their favorite 4th memory. Mail or send online. We could pick a winner....three winners and give prizes. It was suggested we give Naughty Nellies gift cards. Donna & Alita will take care of this.
- 4) Raffle. How many prizes? Judy said she has one Prize already: a \$50 gift card from the Flying Goose left over from last year. Where to get tickets? Judy and Betty in charge of this.
- 5) Booklets. Jen will do these. She will send the Google Doc to us. Dedication to the Georges. Maybe interview the Georges (without giving away about the dedication) and others about past celebrations. Jen thinks we will have 12 pages. We will have the Shopper print.
- 6) Big sign on the Green. Someone....Jen?....suggested we make a big poster of Charlie Darling, dressed as Uncle Sam, and out that on the Green. Doug & Kevin will take care of that.
- 7) Website with old pictures etc. (I think Jen will take care of setting this up.)

Doug will schedule another phone conference meeting in a couple weeks.

Meeting adjourned about 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Frost, Sec'y