

**375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee**  
**July 11, 2018 ~ Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Chairman – Mike Costello, Vice Chair – Connie Wenzel Jordan, Abby Abrahamson, Kenneth Abrams, Andrew Carden, Anna Deignan, Kim Fagundes, Jean Grota, Neal Harrington, David LeComte, Jen LeComte, Cynthia Lee, Jann McMurry, Laura Schwall, Sandy Phillips, Joe Nunes, Cheryl Gouveia, Doug Kelley

Meeting came to order at 7:05 pm.

**Motion:** Connie Wenzel-Jordan made the motion to accept minutes – seconded by Neal Harrington – approved unanimously – at 7:08 p.m.

**Clambake**

Laura Schwall gave an update on the upcoming clambake. For entertainment, a DJ was hired free of charge. Ben Foss and Zachariah Padin, two of the winners from the Rehoboth's Got Talent Show, as well as Richard Barrett and several of his colleagues will be playing live music. Kim Fagundes gave an update on games and activities planned for the event. There will be a pie eating contest divided into two divisions: one for kids and one for adults. There will also be a 3-legged race, a balloon fight, and a sack race. The fire department will confirm whether the fire silhouette could be used for the clambake. To date, 46 tickets have been sold. Laura Schwall sent out an email blast to town employees and added a notice about the event to the town website. Jake Kramer will oversee the 375<sup>th</sup> merchandise booth, Donna Ide's "Rehoboth" graphic will be available for purchase, and 375<sup>th</sup> vendor Jen Thayer Karl will be selling her Rehoboth 375<sup>th</sup> pottery pieces. There will be hourly 50/50 raffles. The Antiquarian Society will table a display of the history of clambakes in Rehoboth, and Sandy Phillips will table a display of the history of Rehoboth. The Blanding Library will attend the event to register people for library cards. Connie Wenzel-Jordan sent an email blast to the Rehoboth Business Association, put an ad on RehobothNow.com, and posted about the Clambake on the Rehoboth 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Facebook page. She also used two of the Sun Chronicle ads to spread the word about the Clambake. The Clambake Sub-Committee's goal is for 200 people to attend the event. Laura Schwall also added that Connie Wenzel-Jordan did an excellent job designing Clambake tickets!

**Financial Report**

\$25,794 has been raised, to date. The Committee hasn't touched the \$50,000 from the Town yet. So far, we have only used donation money to pay for expenses. There was a discussion to clarify expenses of the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee. Kim Fagundes suggested making and selling a calendar of all the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events to fundraise money to pay back the town. The Committee may need to hold

additional fundraising events beyond 2018. Jean Grota suggested passing around a bucket at the 375<sup>th</sup> parade to raise money. This would be like holding a boot drive. Anna Deignan suggested having a special t-shirt for those who would help pass around the bucket. Food trucks will also raise money at the parade. 10 trucks at \$100 each will cost \$1,000.

Neal Harrington made a motion to approve the finance report. Joe Nunes seconded, all in favor.

### **Carnival**

The Board of Selectmen will review and vote to approve the carnival contract at the next meeting. The carnival company is concerned that with safety and security, it would be too much to do fireworks and stay within budget. Mike Costello will see if Atlas Fireworks can take over, since they will be in town for the Gatlin Show anyway. He will also check on the cost. In addition, a sign-up sheet for manning the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booth is available.

### **Parade**

Jean Grota gave an update on the 375<sup>th</sup> Parade. Rehoboth resident Wendy Cardarelli handed out cards at the Bristol 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade to recruit participants for the 375<sup>th</sup> parade. Jean discussed communicating with headphones/walkie-talkies during the parade. So far, there are 62 groups registered to participate in the 375<sup>th</sup> Parade: 12 bands, 5 character groups, 17 floats, 4 horse units, 2 militia units, 13 vehicles, and 8 walking groups. There will be an estimated 2,500 participants.

The parade is projected to last for about 3 hours. There was a discussion on businesses along the parade route (Cumberland Farms, Dunkin' Donuts, M&D's, etc.) and how they will be able to stay open. Although the roads will be blocked off, there will still be walking traffic. The road blocks will be put in place at last minute. We need more parking space and will need to have handicap access (the Bristol 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade uses the schools). Port-A-Johns will be ordered for the event. A reviewing stand is needed as well. People who donated a certain amount will sit in the bleachers at the school for viewing.

Rehoboth TV can record and broadcast the parade. Mike Costello will contact local news anchor Patrice Wood regarding additional news coverage.

Banners will need to be purchased once divisions are finalized – this needs to be settled by the end of July. Mike Costello knows the owner of Safety Signs in Bristol and will contact him for price estimates. Shirts need to be purchased for the Committee; Cheryl Gouveia suggested using Graphic Ink.

Doug Kelley discussed potentially having a fireman's muster at the beginning of the parade so that the safety departments aren't held up for the day. Any emergency vehicles can participate in the parade. Sandy Phillips and Jean Grota will work on recruiting a SWAT, K-9, or SEMLEC group to participate in the parade. Bill Mariano will get a command trailer from the State. Mike Costello will bring up BOS involvement at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Town-related participants and dignitaries should be near the front of the parade or by the Grand Marshall division. Mike Costello suggested inviting delegates from each town that used to be a part of Rehoboth to participate in the parade.

Monroe Feed Supply has generously helped raise money for the parade.

The Parade Sub-Committee will send a package in the mail (as well as an email copy) to participants with a map, staging sites, a parking ticket, directions for staging specific to the participants, and who to look for. It will be sent in September. There will be division signs along Route 44.

Doug Kelley suggested getting a wrecker in case a float breaks down. He discussed safety and spacing between floats. Shawn Urban might MC the parade. Participants will be asked for a paragraph of information about their group to be announced as they approach the viewing stand.

### **Rehoboth Breed Expo**

Kim Fagundes will ask if 375<sup>th</sup> booth can be next to hers at the Breed Expo. The popcorn machine from the American Legion will be used. Neal Harrington donated 35 lbs. of corn.

### **Golf Tournament**

Ken Abrams gave an update on the Golf Tournament. He emphasized that they need help organizing the event and getting more people involved. He has 30 more tee signs at home that need to be sold. Sandy Phillips and Andrew Carden have been working to sell tee signs. Sandy Phillips is also helping with the raffle at Francis Farm. Only 6 foursomes have registered so far; all are from Crestwood Country Club. Ken Abrams and Joe Nunes will approach Bill Cute about spreading the word about the golf tournament. We need courses to reach out to their leagues to spread the word about the event as well. Ads will run on WPRO and WSAR radio at no cost to advertise the Golf Tournament.

Laura Schwall will send the golf tournament flyer to Derek Rousseau to be posted on Channel 9 TV. Ken Abrams said the wrong phone number was listed in the golf tournament ad in the Rehoboth Reporter. Jean suggested reaching out to change the phone number in the online ad.

Joe Nunes addressed a message from KBK Sports. He will contact them for more details and ask for a contract. He contacted all courses in the area about recruiting foursomes. Mr. Nunes added that if the event isn't encouraged by a member of the club, a golf club sometimes won't spread the word about the event.

The Golf Tournament Sub-Committee will meet on Monday.

### **Harvest Block Party**

Mike Costello and Jake Kramer will attend the Block Party on behalf of the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee. Sandy Phillips will fill out the application.

### **Any other business**


Jean Grota made a motion to pay the facility rental fee of \$500 each to Francis Farms for the Taste of Rehoboth, Golf Tournament, and Clambake. Dave LeComte seconded the motion. The majority voted in favor, Sandy Phillips voted against.

Ken Abrams suggested that tickets be made for the Golf Tournament dinner. Connie Wenzel-Jordan said that we could add this as a separate and open-to-the-public button on the online payment page.

Laura Schwall announced that Clambake flyers and tickets are available. The Clambake chicken dinner will cost \$25. Francis Farms is only making profits on part of the meals and alcohol for the event, the rest will go to the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee. There was a discussion on costs and profits of the Clambake.

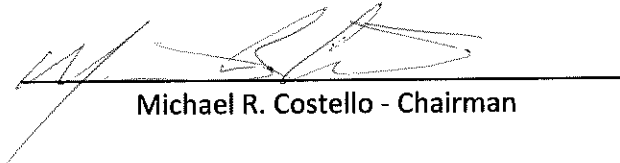
**Motion to Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the board, Neal Harrington made the motion to adjourn the Wednesday, July 11, 2018, 2018 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee meeting. Kim Fagundes seconded and the committee unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Abby J. Abrahamson

Meeting Minutes Approved (date and time): Date: 7/25/18 7:05 PM Time:

Signature of 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee Chairman  
after minutes have been approved:

  
Michael R. Costello - Chairman