

**375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee**  
**August 8, 2018 ~ Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Chairman – Mike Costello, Vice Chairperson – Connie Wenzel-Jordan, Sheila Kramer, Jake Kramer, Neal Harrington, Abby Abrahamson, Anna Deignan, Kim Fagundes, Cynthia Lee, Sandy Phillips, Jen LeComte, Dave LeComte, Laura Schwall, Jean Grota, Nancy Muri, Kevin Hebert, Andrew Carden, Cheryl Gouveia, Joe Nunes, Jeff Greenberg

Meeting came to order at 7:02 PM

**Motion:** Jake Kramer made the motion to accept minutes – seconded by Jean Grota – approved unanimously – at 7:03 PM

**Carnival**

Mike Costello spoke about the success of the Carnival. Overall, turnout was good! The carnival company asked to come back for another event in the future. Everything went well, and no incidents occurred. Mike Costello thanked everyone who helped him and Jake Kramer with 375<sup>th</sup> merchandise/t-shirt sales throughout the event. Jake Kramer announced that \$730 in t-shirt sales was made at the event. He said that the carnival was a smash hit, and thanked everyone who played a role in making the event possible.

Laura Schwall made a motion that the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee purchase a tent that will be used at the Harvest Block Party. The tent will then be donated to Connie Wenzel-Jordan after the Block Party to replace her tent that was destroyed in the wind at the carnival. Sandy Phillips seconded, all in favor. Discussion: Mike Costello will select and purchase the tent; he knows of a good brand to use.

Jen LeComte suggested having the carnival coincide with the Harvest Block Party next year. Laura Schwall recommended that Committee members visit the Block Party in September and see what the space is like and how much room there would be for a carnival. She also suggested holding a carnival in June, and possibly partnering with the Parks Commission to do concerts.

Mike Costello added that when the Carnival left, the made sure that everything was left the same as they found it.

**Breed Expo**

Mike Costello gave an update on the Breed Expo. The 375<sup>th</sup> booth was next to Kim Fagundes' booth. Turnout at the event was light. The Committee made \$143 from t-shirt and popcorn sales at the event. Laura Schwall suggested the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee make popcorn at the Harvest Block Party as well. We have

plenty of popcorn bags leftover. Jake Kramer said that the American Legion is getting rid of their popcorn machine. Mike Costello suggested donating the machine to the Town, to be used at the Harvest Block Party every year.

Dave LeComte suggested having events such as the Harvest Block Party, clambake, etc. all in one week next year, so that there might be an increased presence.

### **Golf Tournament**

Jake Kramer gave an update on the golf tournament for Ken Abrams, since Mr. Abrams is ill. There are currently 15 foursomes registered to participate in the golf tournament. Ken Abrams will pick up tee signs, glasses etc. for the event. He asks that Sandy Phillips, Jake Kramer, and Mike Costello stop by his house tomorrow.

Mr. Abrams also asked for volunteers to sell mulligans at the golf tournament. Mike Costello said this is a good money-maker, as mulligans essentially offer a second chance to players. Kim Fagundes volunteered to sell mulligans, and Sandy Phillips will be giving out glasses. Jen and Dave LeComte volunteered to man the hole-in-one. Volunteers should arrive at Crestwood Country Club around quarter to 12:00 on the day of the event. Jake Kramer asked for Committee members to volunteer verbally and then send a follow-up email to confirm. Mike Costello has a set of walkie-talkies for the volunteers.

Sandy Phillips asked about selling raffle tickets at the event. The American Legion is donating the tickets, but volunteers to sell them are needed. They will be sold at the signup area and again at dinnertime. Ken Abrams has 2-3 dozen raffles. Mike Costello also has a new golf bag that was donated to the tournament. Jean Grota asked how long the event might be; Mike Costello said the golf tournament will last for about 5 hours. There will be a chicken dinner at Crestwood Country Club following the tournament.

Sandy Phillips showed the Committee two blankets that she made for the golf tournament. Kim Fagundes asked if the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee will be selling t-shirts at the event. Jake Kramer said that we won't be selling them, however, Sandy Phillips added that some 375<sup>th</sup> shirts will be raffle items.

Jean Grota asked how much a mulligan costs. Mike Costello said that the average cost of a mulligan is about \$5.00. Kevin Hebert said that he'll probably take photos at the launch and then at the dinner/awards ceremony. Mike Costello has received a lot of inquiries about purchasing meals only. The cost of a meal is \$25.00.

### **T-Shirt Sales**

Jake Kramer gave an update on t-shirt sales. He restocked the shirts at Anawan Pharmacy. Overall, inventory is going down. He suggested keeping the regular price as opposed the discounted rate until after the 375<sup>th</sup> Parade, in an effort to keep inventory stable until the end of the year. We currently have about 150 t-shirts left.

### **Harvest Block Party**

Laura Schwall announced that the Harvest Block Party will be on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The 375<sup>th</sup> Committee will be making popcorn and selling t-shirts, glasses, Taste of Rehoboth cookbooks, etc. The 375<sup>th</sup> booth will be near Kim Fagundes' booth and 375<sup>th</sup> pottery vendor Jen Thayer Karl's booth.

### **Painting Party**

Laura Schwall gave an update on the success of the August Painting Party. Connie Wenzel-Jordan, Sandy Phillips, and Cynthia Lee did an awesome job organizing the event. 25 people came!

The next Painting Party event will be on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Mellissa Treichler said that she misquoted at \$5.00, since she isn't making a profit at that rate. Connie Wenzel-Jordan suggested raising the price to \$10.00.

Jake Kramer made a motion to increase Melissa Treichler's fee from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per participant. Sandy Phillips seconded, approved unanimously.

Jake Kramer announced that he will be going to Attleboro to "take back the town" on Tuesday, Aug 14<sup>th</sup> as town crier. Jean Grota suggested that he contact Cathy Potter for help/suggestions on this type of event. Connie-Wenzel Jordan volunteered to make a scroll that he can read.

Anna Deignan asked if the November 24<sup>th</sup> Painting Party is organized yet. Sandy Phillips volunteered to chair the event. Connie Wenzel-Jordan added that participants will be creating a winter scene painting. She is waiting for an image from Melissa Treichler.

### **375<sup>th</sup> Parade**

Jean Grota gave an update on the progress of the parade. She met with the fire chief today; he has about 20 trucks ready for the parade. The Parade Sub-Committee thought about getting a shuttle bus, since it will provide quick transportation. Jean contacted Dighton-Rehoboth School Superintendent, Dr. Azar, about getting a school bus that will act as a shuttle bus. However, a bus usually costs about \$400 for the day. Laura Schwall will contact Odette at Francis Farm about using a trolley as a shuttle. Mike Costello said that most of the parking will likely be at Redway Plain, and audience members will have to walk up the parade route to their seats. Jean Grota added that there are some participants that will definitely need transportation along the parade route, but there will be golf carts for that.

Roads will be closed off at 10:00 AM, when the floats start staging. Jean Grota said that we need to figure out who will be sitting in the viewing stand. Mike Costello said that we had previously discussed having high donors sit there. In addition, there was a raffle for a viewing stand seat at the Taste of Rehoboth event. He suggested selling seats in the viewing stand. Two stands would equal 200 seats. He suggested that we advertise a limited 100 spots with preferred seating and parking for \$25.00. If all goes well, he will order more seats. In addition, there will be handicap seating and parking. Connie Wenzel-Jordan asked about adding a pay button to the website for viewing stand seat purchases; Laura Schwall will research this.

The Singing State Trooper agreed to participate for a lower cost. In past parades, he has brought his PA system and sung in the middle of the parade route for about 40 minutes before the parade starts. Jean Grota said that he can be located in front of the viewing stand, and his PA system by Mr. Cute for the duration of the parade.

The Parade Sub-Committee voted to have an opening ceremony. Sergeant Shailor from the Rehoboth Police Department will be singing the National Anthem, then there will be a ribbon cutting, a photo, and the launch of the parade. Mike Costello suggested adding pre-parade entertainment to the viewing stand seating advertisement. He also said that he will have more information on port-a-potties by the end of the week. Jean Grotta needs to know where the port-a-potties will be located so that the information can be added to the map of the parade and then be sent to the Rehoboth Reporter. Live Earth is donating an air-conditioned unit that will be placed near the viewing stand. Anna Deignan suggested advertising viewing stand seating as a VIP pass to the parade.

Divisions will be established around September 15<sup>th</sup>. Next week, the Sub-Committee will be drafting a letter to residents along the parade route. It will be sent to the police chief for review. Jen LeComte suggested adding a section in the letter about the pre- and post- parade cleanup, and adding that volunteers will be helping to keep the roadsides clean as well. Kevin Hebert suggested handing out extra bags. Mike Costello added that the Rehoboth Highway Department will be cutting brush along the parade route before the event. Cheryl Gouveia asked about a parade pass for residents. Jean Grotta said that residents along the parade route and side streets will be able to show a pass if they need to get in or out, but after a certain point it won't work.

Road closings and a map of the parade route will be included in the Rehoboth Reporter. Mike Costello is getting 7 more electronic road signs that will be used for detouring and showing road closings. Jean Grotta received a quote of \$1,000.00 for 10 signs and 4 banners, which would be used for showing divisions. She asked the Committee for help finding quotes that might be less costly. Kim Fagundes volunteered to research this. Joe Nunes suggested asking the Dighton Rehoboth Art Department about making signs. Mike Costello will reach out to Bristol-Plymouth, as they do sign printing. Jean said that she will need an answer by next week.

In order to make the parade seem grander, we will publish the number of participants in the parade instead of the number of divisions. Mike Costello added that he'd like to put an American flag on all 80 poles along the parade route. Jake Kramer has flags that can be used, we would just need brackets to fasten them with.

Sandy Phillips made a motion to purchase 80 brackets at 97 cents each. Kim Fagundes seconded, approved unanimously.

Bill Cute will be the announcer for the parade. Currently, there will be about 1,200 people on Redway Plain during the event. This number will likely grow.

Beginning on August 14<sup>th</sup>, Connie Wenzel-Jordan will start spotlighting a group participating in the parade on the 375<sup>th</sup> Facebook page every day. Jean will create a Facebook event for the parade and invite her friends; she encouraged Committee members to do the same. Mike Costello added that, as soon as the Harvest Block Party is over, we can advertise the parade on the electronic sign near Redway Plain. Connie Wenzel-Jordan suggested contacting the South Rehoboth fire station about advertising the parade on their electronic sign as well. Kim Fagundes volunteered her sign that was previously displayed on Redway Plain; Mike Costello suggested placing it there again.

A list of needed materials for the parade has been started. Jean Grota asked for others to email her if they have additional suggestions for the list. Kim Fagundes is considering adding a lemonade truck to the parade route.

A checklist for pre-parade setup has also been started. Jean Grota asked if it would be possible to have the next meeting at Town Offices; Mike Costello said it would. She also asked about what the 375<sup>th</sup> Committee is doing for Rehoboth's official anniversary date. The 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee celebrated by burying a time capsule. Laura Schwall read a message from Otis Dyer saying that either Cathy Potter or Dick Georgia might know where it is located. She also said that Dick Georgia thinks it might be located in front of where the Veterans Memorial is. The 375<sup>th</sup> Committee won't be digging up the 350<sup>th</sup> time capsule this year, as it is too soon to do so. However, we will be starting a time capsule of our own. Mike Costello suggested having schoolkids add items to the 375<sup>th</sup> time capsule, possibly a letter or a drawing.

A 375<sup>th</sup> meeting will fall on Rehoboth's official anniversary date, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Mike Costello and Laura Schwall suggested having cake and ice cream to celebrate that night. Anna Deignan suggested having a "Happy Birthday, Rehoboth!" float in the parade.

Laura Schwall suggested having a designated drop-off location for items that residents would like to include in the time capsule.

Jean Grota asked about holding a viewing of the 350<sup>th</sup> Parade before the 375<sup>th</sup> Parade. She has a copy of the event on DVD. Jake Kramer recommended having a potluck at the American Legion for the viewing. Cynthia Lee also suggested holding the viewing party in the Community Center at Horton Estates. She will check on availability.

The Committee agreed to hold a potluck viewing party on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Laura Schwall will invite Derek Rousseau to attend, so that he can see how the parade was filmed. Spouses are invited to attend as well. Kim Fagundes will coordinate a buffet.

Jen LeComte added that there is a picture of the Carnival in the Providence Journal.

#### **Golf Tournament – Additional Update**

Joe Nunes will be picking up supplies donate from A&R Supply tomorrow. He will bring the tee sign to Crestwood Country Club on Monday. Joe Nunes also said that Kathy Conti volunteered to sell mulligans. There will be a putting contest at the event; Kim Fagundes will sell tickets for this activity. Mr. Nunes added that we're in good shape for the shape we're in.

Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to approve the bill of \$30.00 for the Breed Expo. Jake Kramer seconded, all in favor.

#### **Parade Cleanup**

The Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Sub-Committee is finalizing details for the parade cleanup. The area being cleaned up along Route 44 will be about 2.6 miles long. Abby Abrahamson said that the cleanup date will likely be the weekend before the parade. Mike Costello said that the Highway Department will do

the brush cutting along Route 44 the week before the cleanup. Abby asked Committee members to email her if they are interested in participating in the parade cleanup.

**Motion to Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the board, Kevin Hebert made the motion to adjourn the Wednesday, August 8, 2018 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee meeting. Jake Kramer seconded and the committee unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM

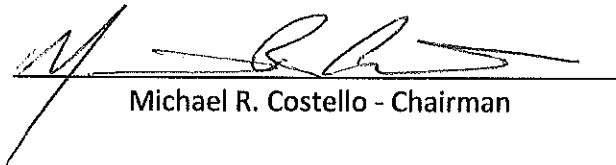
Respectfully submitted,



Abby J. Abrahamson

Meeting Minutes Approved (date and time): Date: 8/22/18 7:15 PM Time:

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



Michael R. Costello - Chairman