

✓

250th Celebration Committee
Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2023

Present: Kevin Dumas, Teresa Murphy, Lou Andrews, Elvire Starisious, Robert MacDonald, Linda McCabe, Kevin McNatt, Susan Feely, Matthew Cook, Eileen Cusack, Nicole Burch

Not Present: Catherine Coyne, Caitlin Barrows, and Robin O'Brien

Guest: Nancy Griffin, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
MAY 11 A 11:36
MANSFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS

1. Open meeting

Mr. Dumas called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Being the first meeting of this committee, there was no Chairperson in place so Mr. Dumas opened the meeting and offered an overview.

2. Overview by Town Manager

Mr. Dumas provided an overview of the Committee's objectives by sharing the Committee's charge that was given by the Select Board. This set the stage for the expectations of the Committee and the Celebration. He stated, in a wide view, the overall expectations that he and the Select Board have for this celebration and gave some examples of possible events and activities that were shared at a recent Select Board meeting. He communicated that efforts should focus on planning with a goal of having a schedule of events and objectives to be accomplished by January of 2025.

3. Introduction of members present

Mr. Dumas asked the members who were present to each introduce themselves and share why serving the community on this committee is important to them. Everyone who was present took the opportunity to tell the group a little about themselves and why they wanted to be part of this historic milestone in the community.

4. Committee organization of roles (Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk)

Ms. Burch asked if the Committee could be given a description of each position. Ms. Griffin gave a short review of the basic responsibilities for Chair, Vice Chair, and Clerk of the Committee. Being a new group, no one was immediately willing to offer to serve. Ms. Griffin recommended that they move this item to the end of the agenda to give everyone some time to think about the positions.

The vote was taken out of order. See later in the agenda order.

5. Brainstorming of events and ideas to include in the celebration

Mr. Dumas asked Ms. Griffin to offer the group some parameters for consideration as they start to plan.

Ms. Griffin offered that there are three things to keep in mind as they set out to plan the 250th Celebration. First, she set the expectation for quality by stating that it is more important to plan a few events of quality than it is to plan an abundance of less successful events. She mentioned that although there are only 12 members on this committee, they could certainly reach out to local organizations and others, such as the Mansfield Public Library to support the committee's goals. Ms. Griffin also asked the group to keep budget limitations in mind as they plan, and for them to be mindful that fundraising would have to be a priority as they choose which events to move forward. Lastly, she asked the group to realistically consider what they each wanted to be responsible for.

250th Celebration Committee Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2023

She asked the group to come up with as many good ideas as possible, but also, to keep in mind that it is the people on the Committee who must spearhead the execution of each part of the celebration.

Mr. Andrews kicked off the brainstorming of ideas by giving the group an overview of the 200th celebration which took place in 1975. This reflection roused the committee to bounce possible event and fundraising ideas off each other with everyone contributing suggestions. Many possible ideas were offered for consideration, including a parade, historical tours, a formal ball, throwback sporting events, reunions, fireworks, and a speaker series highlighting people, events, and topics of significance to Mansfield that have occurred over the past 250 years. It was discussed that the civic organizations in town will be asked to support and contribute to the execution of events.

6. Categorize events into subcommittees or groups

Following a lengthy discussion about possible activities and events that could be considered for the 250th Celebration, Mr. Dumas asked the Committee to keep in mind that while the members of the Committee will be responsible for choosing and executing the events, subcommittees could be formed to support the Committee members. He added, the subcommittees could meet outside of the regular Celebration Committee meeting nights, but that the members of this Committee would be responsible for bringing back regular updates to the Celebration Committee.

Ms. Cusack left the meeting at 7:45 pm

7. Discussion and establish a broad timeline and future meeting schedule

Mr. Dumas recommended that the Committee make a goal of meeting once per month going forward. They agreed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday, May 10th at 6:30 pm at Town Hall.

4. Committee organization of roles (Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk) – Taken out of order (see above).

Mr. Dumas asked for nominations for Chair of the Committee. Mr. Andrews nominated Robert MacDonald to serve as Chair of the 250th Celebration Committee. After a short discussion between Ms. McCabe and Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Andrews made a motion to appoint Robert MacDonald as Chair.

Motion: To appoint Robert MacDonald Chair of the 250th Celebration Committee. **Passes: 10:0** (Mr. Andrews, Ms. Murphy)

Motion: To appoint Linda McCabe Vice Chair of the 250th Celebration Committee. **Passes: 10:0** (Mr. Andrews, Ms. Murphy)

Mr. Dumas asked if anyone was interested in serving as Clerk. He asked Ms. Feely if she might be interested. She indicated that she would be willing.

Motion: To appoint Susan Feely Clerk of the 250th Celebration Committee. **Passes: 10:0** (Mr. Dumas, Ms. Murphy)

250th Celebration Committee
Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2023

8. Other items not known 48 hours in advance

There were no items.

9. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the April 12, 2023 meeting of the 250th Celebration Committee at 7:50 PM. (Lou Andrews, Teresa Murphy) **Passes 10:0**

Susan Feely Clerk 5.11.23
Susan Feely, Committee Clerk

Mansfield Bicentennial Events

1975

(In no special order, may be incomplete)

Incorporation Day Events (August 23rd)

- Muster on the South Common
- Special stamped commemorative envelopes postmarked on day
- Road race
- Kids events
 - Egg throwing contest
 - Frisbee throwing contest
 - Pie eating contest
 - Three-legged race
 - Trophy awards
 - Wheel barrel race
- Large bicentennial ice cream cake

Ham and Bean Supper (under large tent)

County Fair at Memorial Park (under large tent)

- Band
- Beer
- Cotton candy
- Hot dogs & hamburgers
- Library book sale
- Pickles
- Tee-shirts

Bicentennial Ball (indoor venue)

- Auction
- Awards
- Buffet dinner
- Dance band
- Dancing

Air show (May 11th)

- Fly in
- Blimps
- Parachute jump and sky divers

Parade (May 10th & 11th)

Parking at industrial park with fee shuttle buses

- 40+ organization floats
- 50+ marching bands & drill teams **
- 60+ police and fire vehicles from area towns
- Antique vehicles/funny cars
- Bicentennial Belles
- Brothers of the Brush
- Chinese dragon
- DPW vehicles
- Edaville RR horse drawn trolley car
- Sherman/Jackson horse drawn hearse
- Politicians
- Regional Colonial militias*

Bicentennial Play titled "Sing Out Sweet Land"

Fisher-Richardson House open house

Special commemorative plates, pins, Frisbees, envelopes for sale

Slogan and logo contest

1. Colonial Navy Militia of Fall River
2. Fairhaven militia group
3. Fourth Old Dartmouth Militia of Fairhaven
4. Lexington Minutemen
5. and others

(\$1000 in cash prizes)

1. 40 and 8 Legionnaires Group
2. Blue Belle Highlanders Bagpipe Band of Saugus
3. Brigadettes Drill Team of Walpole
4. Crazy Clown Band of Dedham
5. Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps of Boston
6. Dukes of Marlboro Drum and Bugle Corps
7. Fourth Battalion Company of Mass
8. Gloucester ROTC Band, St. Francis Sancians Drum and Bugle Corps of Weymouth
9. Holy Family Defenders Drum and Bugle Corps of Rockland
10. Imperials of Pembroke Drum and Bugle Corps
11. Lt. Norman Prince Drum and Bugle • Corps of Melrose, St. Joseph's Jr.
12. Norwood Debonairs Drum and Bugle Corps
13. Rangerettes Drill Team of Franklin
14. Renegades drum and Bugle Corps of Quincy and the Holy Name Band of West Roxbury
15. Socialites Drum and Bugle Corps of Saugus
16. Sr. Bands of Medway
17. St. John's Drill Team of Cambridge
18. St. Agnes Jr. and Sr. Bands of Arlington
19. St. Anthony's Drum and Bugle Corps of Everett
20. St. Patricks' Drill Team of Stoneham
21. State Champion American Legion Band of Canton
22. and others

LIST OF MANSFIELD ORGANIZATIONS

From Lou Andrews

American Legion

Chamber of Commerce

COA – Council on Aging

DAR – Daughters of the American Revolution

DBA – Downtown Business Association

Elks Club

Fish and Game

Garden Club

KMB – Keep Mansfield Beautiful

Mass Arts Center

MHS – Mansfield High School

MSF – Mansfield Scholarship Foundation?

NRT – Natural Resources Trust

Rotary Club

Scouts

VFW

Westside

Women of Today

Mansfield 250th Anniversary Brainstorming Ideas

\$MONEY\$

- 1) Slogan/Logo Design**
 - a. Contest

- 2) Parade Committee**
 - a. Alumni Band

- 3) StoryCorps**

- 4) Multi-year Class Reunion**

- 5) Incorporation Day (Aug. 23, 2025)**
 - a. Video of '75

- 6) Music Series**

- 7) Restaurant/Pub Crawl**

- 8) Ball/Gala - Big Band**

- 9) Trolley Tours**
 - a. Architectural Tours of Downtown

- 10) Conservation Tours**
 - a. Natural Resources Trust involvement (NRT)
 - b. Guided Hikes?

- 11) Air Show/Fly-in**
 - a. Hot air balloons Groups?

- 12) Sports**
 - a. Speakers?

b. Tournaments

13) Speaker Series

- a. McCollough, Jr., Sullivan family (Collette Travel), David Korins, (MHS grad '94)
- b. Human Library

14) Downtown Electric Boxes

- a. Design contest – thematically connected?

15) School Plays

16) Panels - Historical Places (Historical Society)

- a. (permanent) Markers
- b. People
- c. Walking tours

17) Temporary Art/Photo Exhibits

- a. Commons

18) Fireworks – one night only

19) Abolition Day Event (October 1836)

20) Faith Based Groups

21) Captain Day House

22) Sponsors and Fundraisers

- a. Golf Tournament
- b. Masons