

375th Anniversary Celebration Committee June 19, 2019 ~ Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman - Mike Costello, Abby Abrahamson, Neal Harrington, Ken Abrams, Jean Grota, Jen LeComte, Anna Deignan, Kevin Hebert, Sheila Kramer, Nancy Muri, Jann McMurry, Jeff Greenberg, Kim Fagundes, Dave LeComte

Meeting came to order at 7:06 PM

Motion: Jen LeComte made the motion to accept the minutes - seconded by Jean Grota - approved unanimously - at 7:06 PM

Golf Tournament

Ken Abrams gave an update on the golf tournament. He said that the event went very well. More players had been expected but several people had backed out. The golf course was alright, although there were a few bad holes. The meal was very good! Mr. Abrams said that overall, he thinks the event went very well! Around \$2,600 was raised.

Taste of Rehoboth

Mike Costello said that the Taste of Rehoboth was a great success. There was lots of good food and great entertainment. Dave LeComte said that there were twenty-one vendors at the event; Jen LeComte added that about 260 people attended. Many tickets were sold leading up to the event, and a good amount were sold at the door. Mike Costello said that hopefully the event will grow even bigger next year. Dave LeComte said that the Taste of Rehoboth received lots of great comments from the vendors; many said that they were looking forward to next year. Dave LeComte said that he is hoping to include more non-food vendors next year to raise awareness about local businesses. Neal Harrington asked what the numbers are from the Taste of Rehoboth; Kim Fagundes said that about \$7,600 was raised.

Mike Costello said that a lot of great committees came from the 375th Committee and its sub-committees, such as the Taste of Rehoboth and Keep Rehoboth Beautiful.

Mike Costello spoke with Connie Wenzel-Jordan recently about the time capsule. The 325th Anniversary Committee did not do a time capsule, however the 350th Anniversary Committee did. Mike Costello and Connie Wenzel-Jordan thought that the 375th Committee should wait and let the 400th Anniversary Committee do the next time capsule.

Mike Costello said that the main thing to address tonight is that we repaid the \$50,000. He was hoping that we could announce this at Town Meeting in May; Jean Grota said that we could still announce this at the next Town Meeting in July.

Mike Costello added that the term for the 375th Anniversary Committee runs until June 30, 2019. However, he will ask for a vote to dissolve the Committee tonight. Then a letter will be sent to the Board of Selectmen asking that members of the 375th Committee are not reappointed.

Dave LeComte said that he and Jen LeComte would like to organize a party at the end of the summer for the 375th Committee. He added that the Taste of Rehoboth is in need of a letter of appreciation to be sent to the event vendors. He would like the letter to be signed by a representative of the 375th Committee as well as himself and Debbie Breckenridge. Mike said that he will bring this up with the Board of Selectmen.

375th Parade Check

Kim Fagundes said that she received a call from John Burke who is a mason and had sent a check for \$1,000 to be in the 375th Parade. The check was never cashed and was cancelled. Mr. Burke offered to donate the amount to charity. Kim Fagundes said that, in a previous conversation, Jake Kramer had suggested putting the proceeds towards the 400th Anniversary. Mike Costello said that the Town Events Committee is currently the funding source for the 400th Committee. Kim Fagundes said that she doesn't feel that we should set aside money for 25 years down the road when we could use the money for town events in the near future. Mike Costello added that a separate account for the 400th Committee is unlikely right now. Dave LeComte said that he thought the money could be used for charities and local causes. Mike Costello thought that the Town Events Committee account was set up so that the money could only be used for town events, not to donate to another organization. He suggested that Dave LeComte contact Roberta Oliveira to figure out how money can be used legally for the Town Events Committee.

Nancy Muri clarified that the purpose of the check was that, if we needed it, it could be used for the 375th Anniversary Celebration. If not, the masons would choose a charity to donate it to. Jann McMurry asked if the check could be sent to a charity in Rehoboth; Mike Costello said that this decision would be up to the people donating the money.

Committee Expiration

Jen LeComte made a motion to dissolve the 375th Anniversary Celebration Committee, effective June 30th, 2019. Dave LeComte seconded the motion, all in favor.

Nancy Muri made a motion to send a letter to the Rehoboth Board of Selectmen to ask that members of the 375th Anniversary Celebration Committee are not reappointed. Jean Grota seconded the motion, all in favor.

Jean Grota made a motion to allow Chairman Mike Costello to sign and approve the June 19, 2019 meeting minutes with needed amendments. Ken Abrams seconded the motion; all in favor.

Additional Business

Mike Costello asked Abby Abrahamson to give an update on the Spruce Up The Town Fundraiser for the Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Committee. Abby Abrahamson said that so far, over \$300 has been raised from the sale of tree seedlings.

Dave LeComte invited 375th Committee members to join the Town Events Committee. Jen LeComte said that the Town Events Committee usually meets once a month on a Tuesday. Anna Deignan suggested that the Town Events Committee could looking replicating events that the 375th Committee held.

Jean Grota expressed how much she really enjoyed working with everyone on the Committee. Mike Costello said that the Committee is a great group that worked very hard. He said that we have a lot of memories to take with us, and thanked the Committee. Mike Costello also said that he is very pleased that we had a new life, Muriel Deignan, come into the world during the 375th Anniversary Celebration.

Neal Harrington asked about the silent auction at the Taste of Rehoboth and how to get in contact with the person who won the car ride that he donated.

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>: There being no further business to come before the board, Jeff Greenberg made the motion to adjourn the Wednesday, June 19, 2019 375th Anniversary Celebration Committee meeting. Kim Fagundes seconded and the Committee unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby J. Abrahamson

Meeting Minutes Approved (date and time): Date: 7/19 Time: 7:30 Am

Signature of 375th Anniversary Celebration Committee Chairman after minutes have been approved:

Michael R. Costello - Chairman