

**300th Anniversary Celebration
20 March 2019
Approved Minutes**

Chair Jean Methot called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Following members present: Chris Hadik, Rhonda Lamphere, Ed Stuart, Jack Cannon.

Others: Sue Rieter, Graphic Designer and Nancy Jolin.

Guests: from Brookline, NH 250th Committee - Sheryl Corey, Jay Bishop & Kathy Pelletier.

MINUTES:

No action needed on Minutes from January 15, 2019 meeting. **Rhonda Lamphere made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; Chris Hadik seconded the motion; all in favor.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

No report

OLD BUSINESS:

Jean stated that letters were sent to Ed Karjala and Tim Bortz regarding replacing them on the 300th Committee. No response from either. **Rhonda Lamphere made a motion to remove Ed and Tim as Executive Committee members. Jack Cannon seconded the motion; all in favor.**

Jean introduced the two women interested in joining the 300th Executive board - Sue Rieter and Nancy Jolin. Sue has been attending most of our Board meetings being our Graphic Designer and consultant for the coin project the past few years. Nancy told of her background and the skills she could bring to the Executive Board, most importantly IT skills. **Rhonda Lamphere made a motion to nominate Sue Rieter and Nancy Jolin as new members of the Executive Board. Jack Cannon seconded the motion.** After brief discussion about additional tasks of Nancy's position which would include advertising and keeping our website current, **all voted in favor of Sue's and Nancy's appointment to the Board effective immediately.**

Sue showed the latest proof with corrections we wanted on the coin and stated that it will be a 1-1/2 inch antique brass coin. A quantity needs to be decided upon. Sue suggested having a "glass" copy of the coin made - would be a nice souvenir to sell. Also, a suggestion about having it made into a wooden medallion was made - could be either an ornament or a magnet. **Jack made a motion to accept the final design as presented; Chris Hadik seconded his motion; all voted in favor.** Jack suggested paying for the die cut cost separately, later paying for coins separately also. Jack will

contact the coin company to find out what the cost would be and find out how many strikes you can get from one die cut and what the individual cost for each coin would be. He'll send the information on to Board members once he finds out.

Ed Stuart will talk with Nancy Jolin regarding the website. Nancy will be the person to send info/updates to Debra Doda for our site. Minutes of the 300th Committee meetings will be on the website in the future, as well as information about items we have for sale, such as t-shirts and hats.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jean has spoken with Michelle Hatch, owner of Bittersweet Blessings in town, and she has graciously said she is willing to sell our t-shirts and hats in her shop. Jean will ask her about attending a future meeting to speak with the Committee.

Jean has also spoken to a teacher at Chester Academy about sending our recent survey to school families electronically and she will collect the information to pass on to our Committee. Jean will give her a copy of the survey soon to get this in motion. We're still in need of input from families about what events they would like to see during the year-long celebration, especially some events for children.

Sheryl Corey, of Brookline, NH, a founding member of Brookline's upcoming 250th town celebration, and Jay Bishop, of Plaistow, who is an event and parade planner/coordinator, were here to see how our meetings are run, and shared much information about their plans which were very helpful to our Committee.

Jay brought samples of the banner the Town of Brookline will display for 4-6 months of the celebration and explained what a tremendous fundraising activity it is. This is done by getting sponsors who would like to see their company name on a banner for several months. Prices for sponsors to acquire a banner ranged from \$250 - \$12,500. Most businesses, Jay said, go for at least a \$1,000 banner. The banners were approximately 30x60 and would have town name, date, design (coin or town seal, etc.) and sponsor name on the bottom. Individual families can also sponsor a banner (one side, with a business sponsor on opposite side usually). After the celebration, the sponsor gets to keep the banner! They have planned extra "perks" for the largest money sponsor - souvenir coins/glassware, tickets to some of the events, special seating at events, special parking. The bracket and pole for mounting the banners on poles runs about \$84. each.

Other ideas presented by Jay included a special license plate which can be legally placed on cars, various types of glassware. He also suggested having the capability to take credit cards for merchandise - it would double sales. They also send out "save-the-date" cards for the parade and other events and to hand out at town meetings, etc. We received a wealth of information from these people tonight - very helpful and encouraging.

Discussion among Executive Committee members continued after our guests left, with Rhonda showing a sample of a Christmas-type ball ornament which could show our coin design, available in different colors. This will be discussed further at a later date with other fundraiser ideas in addition to the coins and possibly wooden medallions.

Everyone was in agreement to have Jay Bishop come to another meeting to talk to us about how he can help us and hopefully, signing him on.

We still need to see what committees for the 300th that Executive members will be in charge of. Rhonda and Chris have already been working on plans for the parade on September 21, 2021, the day of Chester Town Fair. We may possibly change the date of the April meeting from the 17th to the 24th to accommodate Jay as the Brookline committee also meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Chris Hadik will contact Jay to see if this is possible. Nancy said she could put something on "Chester Front Porch" page on Facebook about our need for ideas and volunteers for the 300th celebration.

Rhonda brought up the question of whether we were going to set up a table at the Town Meeting on May 16th to sell shirts and hats, hand out surveys and we'll put our new banner on display.

NEXT MEETING - TO BE DETERMINED - either April 17 or April 24 - 7:00 PM.

Chris Hadik made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Rhonda Lamphere seconded; all in favor. Adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Pepper, Secretary