

Montgomery 300th Anniversary Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2013

Location: Montgomery Township Building, Board Conference Room

Present: Joe Walsh, Tanya Bamford, Dennis Cooney, Stacy Crandell, Dennis Gillen, Larry Gregan, Ruth Hardin, Janet McCrossen, Roy Rodriguez, Richard Roller, Gordon Simes, Ginny Bailey

Chairman, Joe Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the November 5, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Finance Report

In the absence of Kate Karatas, Larry Gregan gave the finance report: The Committee has a total balance of \$8,861.13. Thirty five SaveAround Coupon Books have been sold for a total of \$700.00 and Sal's Nursery and Deborah and Angelo Grasso have donated \$1,500.00 each. Joe said he has talked to the Cutler Group who has committed to donate \$10,000.00 and Boucher and James has committed to donate \$2,500.00.

Tanya asked if the Committee was going to have receipts or invoices available for donations since most firms won't write a check without an invoice. Also, TEVA has committed to make a donation but has not indicated a level. Larry said we will look into putting together a standard receipt and invoice.

Thank You's for JAI Event

There has been concern that the businesses who attended the Joseph Ambler Inn event have not received "thank you's". Several members of the Committee volunteered to help get them out.

Historic House Tour

Rich said he had 5 houses and 2 churches lined up with half being on the tour in 2013 and the other half on tour in 2014. Janet and Sue Ann went on the Norristown Garden Club house tour to get pointers and information. We will need lots of volunteers so ask friends. People who signed up at the Autumn Festival will be contacted and members of the Montgomery Township Historical Society will also volunteer to help out. Rich will give a full report next month.

Golf Outing

Both Roy and Dennis C. reported on the golf outing – The golf outing will be held Thursday, May 9th at PineCrest Golf Club in Montgomeryville. The Committee will be

looking for sponsors for the holes and PineCrest is giving us a “break” for greens fees. There was discussion about “pretty girls” in golf carts bringing beer around for the players, selling mulligans, donations from local businesses for prizes at the dinner following golf and a sports auction. There is a meeting this Friday to finalize details and cost. Dennis G. said Budget Printing will donate the flyers, design and signs for the holes.

Anniversary Beer

There has also been discussion that after the golf outing, participants would be bused to the Village Tavern to try the 300th Anniversary Beer. It was felt by the Committee that to have this event after the golf outing would be too much for one day and to have the event another night but shortly after the golf outing. There will be a contest to name the beer.

Marketing Subcommittee Meeting

Tanya reported that she and Ginna met to discuss marketing strategies. They want to create more interest through social media, email or direct mail. The post office charges 14.5¢ per piece for mailings to specific zip codes or within a specified radius of the post office. Sponsored stories will deliver information about our Facebook page to users with a certain zip code and we can use links using QR codes. Tanya will put together a “wish list” to see what we can afford.

Push Back

Dennis C. has experienced push back from mid-size business owners he’s talked to who are questioning what’s going to be done with the money the Committee raises. Many don’t mind donating if the money will go to a charity in the area but don’t see the benefit to fundraise for 300th Anniversary events. The consensus was that these businesses should see the donation as making an investment in the community.

Contact Database

Dennis C. received an email offering a contact database to the Committee free of charge for 3 years. After some discussion, it was decided that while a very generous offer, it wasn’t something the Committee could use but Larry said he would run it by Rich Grier to see if the Township would benefit from the offer.

Montgomery County Historical Fair

Roy said he was talking to Karen Stocking of the W.S. Hancock Society about holding the 2014 Montgomery County History Fair in the Township. It was suggested that the path at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae would be an ideal location. Roy will talk to Karen about a date.

Joe mentioned he would like to talk about the September 20th Community Day event in 2014 at the next meeting. Also, the Committee’s picture will be taken at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting – Monday, February 4th at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by
Ginny Bailey