

# Montgomery 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

## Meeting Minutes

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Date: September 3, 2013

Location: Montgomery Township Building, Board Conference Room

Present: Stacy Crandell, Tanya Bamford, Andrea Duffy, Jim Kelly, Sue Ann Miller, Gordon Simes, Maureen Waddington, Bud Walleck, Nancy Walsh, and Ginny Bailey

In the absence of Committee Chair Joe Walsh and Vice Chair Rich Roller, Stacy Crandell conducted the meeting. Stacy called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the July 1, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved as distributed.

### Finance Report

Stacy reported that we have received no new donations and presented a draft budget for the 2014 events.

### **Old Business:**

#### Historic House Tour

Sue Ann reported that the tour is being promoted in the Fall Recreation Newsletter and asked that something be added to the cable channel to advertise it as well. Ginny reported that we already have 5 people signed up for the tour. Sue Ann also asked that the news release go out because we're looking for 200 people to attend. She said the guests will rotate between the 5 locations on the tour but there will probably be a delay when the folks get to the Joseph Ambler Inn. The subcommittee is looking for volunteers to be hosts/hostesses at the houses for both the morning and afternoon tours. The next step will be to get the brochures done so Sue Ann will check with Rich to find out who has been selected to produce the illustrations for the brochures. Also, Rich has contacted Bruce Stocking about being available at the Heckler House where Winfield Scott Hancock was born.

#### General Hancock Birthday/Kick-Off Event

Maureen had sent out an email prior to the meeting with the suggested menu for the event and asked for suggestions or feedback. They're hoping to have the chef talk about the menu and what it was like to prepare meals. Then, depending on the weather the group will move between the restaurant and John Roberts house.

#### Golf Outing

Due to Dennis Cooney's email about not being able to chair the Golf Outing subcommittee, the event was in doubt but Maureen said she'd be willing to chair the event providing the business association would support it. Stacy agreed to help.

### Reenactment/Birthday Event/5K Run/Hunger Games

- 5K Run – Maureen reported that the subcommittee is starting to follow a timeline. She has worked with 5K's before and knows what needs to be done. It was suggested that restaurants in the Township, such as Outback or Wegman's be contacted about providing food for after the run.
- Service Recognition – Nancy said that instead of a day of service, the subcommittee proposed launching a day of service beginning December 17th (6 months prior to the event) where participants would perform 300 minutes (5 hours) of service with 5 local organizations. The 5 participating organizations would provide a clear description of the service needed, keep track of the hours, and will speak briefly at the event. The hours could be performed by individuals, families or groups with each participant getting a certificate or award. The 4 organizations contacted so far are: Cradles to Crayons, Neshaminy Falls, Manna on Main Street, and St. Mary's Manor. It was suggested that information on the service project could be included in the Winter Recreation Newsletter. The idea is to encourage service not only on the 300th anniversary but to keep the community strong.
- Hunger Games – Nancy said the subcommittee suggested marketing the games with the service project and donations of canned goods could serve as "payment" to participate. She asked if someone could coordinate donations and if donations could be brought to the Township Building beforehand to help with the collection. The subcommittee will ask for a list of canned goods/non-perishable foods needed. Nancy explained how the game was played at Arcadia and said the subcommittee was looking into getting a practice group to play, provide feedback and, since they had some experience playing, help the day of the event. It was also suggested to have a movie night prior to the event showing the movie, Hunger Games, to get folks interested.
- Reenactment – We'll have to check with Rich or Roy to find out the status.

### Community Day

Sue Ann reported the subcommittee met with Ruth and Mary from the Autumn Festival Committee who shared what had been done in the past. Past Autumn Festivals have included: Township/government groups (fire, police, elected officials), non-profit groups, for profit groups, sporting groups, children's activities, amusements, and entertainment/DJ, food vendors. For Community Day, the subcommittee is considering adding: oversize games, competitions (such as a basketball throw), Philly Phanatic, beer/wine tent, bands, and fireworks.

- Fireworks – Stacy supplied copies of the proposals received so far and showed the possible locations in Windlestrae Park. The estimated cost of the fireworks is \$18,000 and at this point, the Committee does not have a lot of donations or money.
- Rain Date – Stacy also suggested that for an event this big, we should consider a rain date. After checking the calendar for possible conflicts, Saturday, September 27th will be the rain date for Community Day.
- Fundraising – Tanya has a friend with Historic Bethlehem who has agreed to help us with fundraising and events. Maureen, Jim and Joe (Nancy) have agreed to attend the meeting.

### Oral Histories

Nancy reported that the subcommittee did not get as much done this summer as she would have liked. She will ask Jason to put pieces of interviews already done on the website. Nancy would like help setting up and helping with the interviews. While Jason is back in college, Nancy is also looking for someone to help with the videotaping as well. Tanya offered to check with Chris Murphy who has a production studio and has produced feature films. Tanya said he produced a video of his son's soccer season with a trailer to rival trailers seen in movie theaters.

### 300 Anniversary Signage

The Committee feels there should be some type of sign to inform people visiting the Township of our anniversary. Stacy said that a banner across Horsham may not be an option due to a broken pole used to hold the banners. Other locations were suggested but anything over a state road would require permission from PennDOT. Stacy will talk with Larry and Joe about other possibilities.

### Montgomery Media – Commemorative Insert

Montgomery Media will produce the insert but the Committee would need to send a letter to sponsors letting them know that it was being produced on our behalf. The insert was suggested for January 2014 but Stacy said we may not be ready to have something by January. Tanya suggested the Committee come up with a counter proposal and Stacy and Tanya will work on a plan.

### **New Business:**

#### Commemorative Tiles

Ginny reported that we have 130 in stock and have only sold 19 since March. The tiles have been promoted in the Township E-News (18 out of 20 times since March 27th) and in the Township Community Guides which have resulted in sales. Due to the slow sales, Clay Rat Studios will be asked to put a hold on any further tiles. There was also discussion about reducing the cost but it was felt it's too soon to do that.

#### Autumn Festival

Sue Ann passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to be at the Montgomery 300th table at Autumn Festival. She would like at least 2 people per 2-hour shift and asked that the sign-up sheet be included with the minutes distribution. Sue Ann has bought the bear for the raffle and the commemorative tiles and General Hancock caroler will be on sale along with the remaining Montgomery 300 give-a-ways (magnets, post-it notes, chip clips).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

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

Submitted by  
Ginny Bailey