

Reporter

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Township talking 300th birthday

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Montgomery Township's 300th birthday is still two years away, but it's never too early to start planning for it.

On Tuesday night, the committee held its first organizational meeting of 2012, and newly appointed committee chair Joe Walsh says the committee is off to a strong start.

"We discussed a logo and slogan for the committee, as well as potential events. At the next meeting, we will vote on a logo and a slogan," Walsh said.

The committee is also working on a website with the help of Dennis Gillen, owner of township business Budget Printing who is donating his company's help on the logo and web design and hosting.

Each committee member has been asked to come up with a dozen events that the township could host during the anniversary year of 2014, and that list of potential events will get narrowed down and lined up in order over the course of this year.

Committee members have also been named to officer positions: vice-chairing will be former township supervisor Rich Roller, treasurer will be CPA and financing expert Kate Karatas, and secretary will be marketing consultant Maureen Waddington.

At the next 300th anniversary committee meeting on Feb. 14, the group plans to finalize its bylaws and start to set up subcommittees for marketing, communications, financing, fundraising, and event planning, according to Walsh.

Next on the to-do list is to estimate the costs of hosting the planned anniversary events, and set fundraising targets while lining up activities that will help meet those goals without relying too heavily on township funds.

"Last year, our meetings were very open ended and oriented towards brainstorming," he said.

"We're now putting our ideas to paper and creating a blueprint for the anniversary year and for fundraising," Walsh said.

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