

Amherst 4th of July Committee Agenda

Town Hall
Barbara Landry Meeting Room
2 Main Street
Amherst, NH 03031

Thursday, April, 27 2023 at 6:30pm

1. Call to order 6:30-6:35

- Tom called to order at 6:34, Deb. Seconded.
- Nancy moved to approve the minutes, Deb seconded

2. Housekeeping 6:35-6:40

- Meetings are typically last THU of the month, but check the town calender
- Extra volunteers for the day of, asked the committee to keep an eye out for folks who can help
- CERT helps with parking on the 3rd, traffic on the 4th
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3. Treasurer and fundraising 6:40-6:55

- Donations are currently \$875 over last year
- Largest sponsor for event is not able to donate this year.
- Gained several new sponsors this year to help offset increased costs
- Committee will ask for gift cards from local supermarkets
- Committee will increase price by \$5 a tank at propane fundraiser
- Two sponsors from last year have not yet committed to donations this year.
- \$8500 for fireworks
- Committee is working to have revenue completely offset expenses this year.
- Float coordinator made a request for new signs – Best Overall, 6 different categories. Committee will look for signs from previous years in the shed. As committee is trying to keep costs low they will reuse signs from last year if signs are in good condition.
- The cost of entertainment has gone up for approximately 95% of the groups. Decision was made to cut most expensive band, which was new to the event last year.
- Fireworks went up \$2000
- Beginning balance last year was higher than ending balance so committee spent more than it made.
- Committee joined Amherst Community Foundation and donations made through the foundation will be tax deductible

4. General 6:55-7:05

- Publicity/communications timeline
- Liz is admin for Facebook. Plan in place to post information: different weekly flyer to raise interest and publicize different events (puppy contest, horses, float building, antique cars, etc), thank you to different sponsors, timeline of activities at end of month. Will post in town Facebook page as well.
- Liz created Instagram page and will post there as well.
- Deb will connect Janelle and Liz so that messages will be posted in different places.
- Deb will send publicity about timeline of activities to town and Citizen during month of May.
- Logistics
 - Katherine will go to the HS and Wilkins about the events, walk through
 - HS and AMS bands will not participate, they are not working then
 - DPW has been alerted, Will follow up again with them after the BOS meeting formally requesting Town 4th events
 - Matt Conoly, Fire Chief, and Mark Reams, Police Chief, have been notified
 - Katherine will be first aid contact on the 3rd

5. Third 7:05-7:15

- Entertainment- clown, balloon, bands, others
 - Kim to send list of paid entertainment to Tom
- Food
 - Fire Dept this year, Katherine will tell them
- Logistics
 - Or

6. Parade and green 7:15-7:30

- Politicians
 - Shaheen and Hassen non-committal
 - Kuster said no
 - Confirmed that local representatives will be there with additional marchers
 - Incumbents get to march in the front of the parade, make statement at bandstand
 - Folks running for office blanket policy: national politicians follow same rules. Discussed potential policy about ability to speak at the bandstand. People like to hear national level people.
 - Discussed whether committee or local political parties select which candidates allotted time to speak.
- Reviewing stand ceremony

- Reed-pledge and moment of silence, Doug-bagpipes, Souhegan Valley Chorus-music,
- Working on someone to sing Star Spangled Banner
- 2 students are set to run sound system.
- Students to read declaration
- Parade participants
 - 20 groups have said yes including 7 musical groups, 4 floats
 - \$6400 current costs
 - Individual emails have been set to groups who participated last year. Reminder will be sent to all groups who are not registered in May.
 - Float rules state have to have \$1M liability insurance. Not necessary for individual marcher.
 - Horse guard is scheduled and will have a float as well. Will take care of horse waste themselves. Working through logistics of insurance currently.
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 - Uncle Sam misunderstood rules about liability insurance, committee clarified, offered to let him walk around the green, not use stilts, ride in vehicle
- Antique cars and float coordination
 - Puppy show by reviewing stand or on bandstand
- Artists/artisans
 - Artisans: Blacksmith, honey guy, spinning and weaving, more animals.
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- Green
 - Grill has been ordered.
 - 8 groups responded that they would like booth. Will send second email invitation next week.
 - Need better signs for bathrooms. Especially for the Town Hall and Brick School
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7. New Business 7:30-7:35

- To-do list items for May
 - Parking
 - Finding more volunteers
 - Publicity
 - Handicap seating, roped off. Publicize ahead of time as to where it is.

8. Adjourn meeting 7:47

Deb moved to adjourn,
Kim Seconded

