

Amherst Fourth of July Committee Meeting Notes
Town of Amherst, NH
Thursday, October 26, 2023
Amherst Town Hall, Barbara Landry Meeting Room

Attendees:

Call To Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:31pm.

Meeting Minutes

- June 22, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

Attendees:

Board:

Deb Polatchek

Elizabeth Sculley

Cerise Bienvenue

Kim Ayers

Community Members:

Stacie Gillespie

Chris Sylvia

Treasurer's report:

We incurred a \$293 loss across the event which wasn't too bad considering we had to give away ice cream that would not have stayed fresh from July to September.

The Treasurer is reviewing whether the committee can financially sustain the 4th of July celebration without having our fund-raising activities on 3rd of July. Committee will have to raise donations equal to those raised in 2023 in order to make this a possibility.

New Board Positions:

The following positions were voted on and approved by the steering committee.

Chair: Deb Polatchek

Vice Chair: Kim Ayers

Treasurer: Tom Darnall

Communications: Elizabeth Boskee

Cerise would prefer to step off the board, and just work on the committee at large.

She will email Jen Stover her resignation letter, and ask her to announce the open position.

Chris Sylvia volunteered to cover Clerk duties such as taking meeting minutes for Cerise.

Alternatives to the July 3rd Fireworks:

It was agreed that we will ask Pyrotecnico if they would be willing to give us a single-year contract for a day on the weekend before the 4th of July. They had said it would be \$10K on the Sunday before if we entered a 3-year contract, culminating at \$11,000 for July 2026 – 250th anniversary of independence. Town is not able to sign a three-year contract. We will ask them about prices for Fri, Sat, Sun for the weekend before July 4, 2024.

4th of July is on a Thursday in 2024.

Other ideas:

- Birthday party with big cake for 2026
- Consider fireworks on other dates in the year, say Memorial Day, or final weekend of school in June, etc.

Other:

We need to update Amherst Community Foundation page. We need to make a decision about fireworks first.

Meeting schedule for upcoming year: first Tuesday nights, Johnson Room at Library:

- Jan 9
- Feb 6
- March 5
- April 9

We will add more meetings as the year progresses.

Adjournment:

Deb moved to adjourn, Liz seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Ayers, Vice-Chair