

Meeting minutes - Townsend parade and old home day celebrating America's 250th

Attendees: John Barrett, Bill Rideout, Eileen Barnacoat, Chris Barnacoat, Kathy Spofford, Jerrilyn Bozicas, Bev Sager, James Sager, Kym Craven (Zoom)

The meeting focused on organizing Townsend's 250th anniversary celebration on June 20, 2026. Key points included outreach to notable individuals and groups, financial planning, and logistics for the parade and events. Participants discussed involving local businesses, schools, and community groups, such as the North Middlesex Band, Lions Club, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Fundraising strategies were proposed, including sponsorship levels and time capsule kits. The need for a detailed schedule, publicity, and coordination with local businesses and organizations was emphasized. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2023. The meeting discussed upcoming events, focusing on scheduling and coordination. Key dates include a presentation by Bob Arnold in April about his grandfather's Model T trip and a program on Patriots and Tories in March, possibly at the library or senior center. The Washington's Birthday Ball was considered for next year, and an informal Burns Night event was proposed. The April Breeze exhibition of old gravestones was mentioned. The group emphasized the importance of updating the event calendar and ensuring coordination with local organizations like the library and senior center.

Action Items:

Follow-up with the following organizations about participation:

- Townsend Military Band - John Barrett
- NMRHS Band - Bill Rideout
- Townsend firefighters EMS - John Barrett
- Townsend police - Kym Craven
- Troop 10 BSA - John Barrett
- Girl Scouts - Chris Barnacoat
- Townsend Recreation - Bill Rideout
- Townsend Library - Chris Barnacoat
- Townsend Congregational Church - Pam and Jock Snaith
- Townsend Methodist Church - Kym Craven (Heather Torres, permission for use of building for town meeting recreation)
- Townsend Baptist Church - Kym Craven
- St Johns - John Barrett
- TAYBA - Kym Craven
- Tim Rollo/Lou DeMartino, Travis Rollo, Silver Wolf - John Barrett
- Townsend Senior Center - John Barrett
- Church of Christ - Kathy Spofford
- Yankee Ingenuity - John Barrett
- Lions Club (follow up on food) - Bill Rideout
- Daughters/Sons of the American Revolution - John Barrett to contact Eleanor or Julia Stockwell or Glen Eaton
- Masons - John Barrett
- George King - Maryjane Churchville
- Brian Anderson (for pulling hearse) ??
- Magician Jay Resmini - John Barrett (jresmini@comcast.net, 978-855-8097)
- Gaswerks - John Barrett
- Schools - Barnacoats
- Town officials - John Barrett

Fundraising

Bill Rideout will update the fundraising / sponsor template letter so it can be used to solicit business donations and sponsorships once amounts and wording are provided, and email it to the group

Levels: Gold \$1000+ - full page, Platinum \$500+ half page, Silver \$250+ quarter page, Bronze 50+ name listed

Pamphlet needs to be ready for printing by April 1, 2026

Donors given free time capsule

Sponsors will be listed in event pamphlet

Other action items:

1. Final schedule of events for the day done asap
2. General publicity of parade as date is closer, facebook, town website
3. Set up presentation by Bob Arnold about his grandfather's trip around the country in a Model T.
4. Set up talk on patriots and Tories, focusing on individuals who lost their lives during the revolution.

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