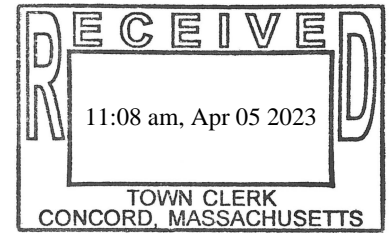


Concord 250  
Community Participation Committee  
Meeting February 1, 2023  
2:00pm



Committee members Present: Holly Cratsley, Carol Wilson, Court Booth, Nancy McJennett, Radha Jalan, Maynard Forbes, Polly Meyer, Joe Zellner, Fabiana Dowd  
Absent: Juliana Farwell-Clay, Liza Bemis, Mardi Hutchinson

Holly called the meeting to order at 2:05pm

January 11, 2023 meeting minutes approved

#### AGENDA ITEMS:

Concord 250 Logo and calendar will be unveiled 2/9/23

Tag line : "Concord: Still Heard 'Round the World"

Discussion about funding -

\$500K from State (\$500K to Lexington, too) coming and a sizeable ask from Town mtg this year will total \$2million over 3 year period.

If community groups want to participate they can complete a grant application. We reviewed draft / proposal. Discussed wording of "Concord250 Grant Application". This would be second step - if event has been approved

Reviewed draft from John Arena regarding Parade / Celebration. They have budget of \$35K for 2023 for security, port-a-potty etc.

Reviewed Court's draft for event submissions - discussed criteria / theme / accessibility / target audience

Three sets / steps of criteria

1. Calendar submissions
2. Grant money
3. Parade participation

We want to attract / encourage events that are inclusive . What would we not allow?

There is a need for criteria / guidelines for participants/ events and ensure dignified and respectful. Participants will need to explain how their event support objectives / mission of Concord 250th.

Submissions will go to town Website for a Manager to review.

Fabianna shared info on Lexington. Lexington already has a phone #, a website already, it's connected to town , select board office. They post their minutes. They want to create a video to

market their 250th. "Lex250". There is a need to let the public know about Concord 250 like Lexington's plan to do a video.

Court's participant application - discussion about if we should add "Check here if you want grant application" phrase/ section.

Executive Committee will need to approve mission statement,

Fabi shared document she shared with religious organizations.

There may be need for religious organizations (that are located in downtown Concord) to raise money to provide facilities and keep open on Patriots Day 2025.

Fred Ryan is in charge of public safety. Perhaps he should be invited to speak to groups at a meeting about the impact of crowds / crowd estimates / expectations on Patriot Day 2025.

Included in that group should be the organizations / businesses with buildings near Concord Center. Conservative estimate for attendance 200K for April 19th event

Concord / Lexington need to have a formal understanding of the wording we use to describe the events of April 19, 1775. (i.e. "The battle that began the American Revolution")...

How do we make this an inclusive event if committees can't agree to wording?

Need for an official liaison to attend both meetings (Lex and Concord). Simone from National Parks attends both.

Need to consult / include National Parks - if events are happening at North Bridge, that is property of National Parks. Coordination with National Parks, public safety etc. is high priority.

Also, @ 16 towns participated in battles / Patriot Day... How do we include? Is that the responsibility of Concord? Joint with Lexington?

Carol will share with Exec Committee mtg 2/9/23 (in place of Holly) and will address that we need a succinct mission statement to include in communication.

Community Participation Committee wants to make sure events are

- Accessible
- Family / child friendly
- Inclusive

Fabi changed over to Google Docs; we all have editing ability. Fabi said to make sure to hit "download" before adding your notes / making edits.

Must download in order to edit

It automatically saves and that will automatically upload

Discussed if we should add minutes to google docs.

Community outreach recap by Polly (Community Chest, CCHS Athletics, private schools)

Community Chest would like to discuss with their Board later in spring / summer and possibly consider marking the Concord 250 with some type of service day. Concord Academy and

Nashoba Brooks Schools will have two weeks in March 2025 that could be considered as venue for community event when students are on March Break. Polly is discussing similar options with Middlesex School and will reach out to the Fenn School.

Aaron Joncas, CCHS Athletic Director, informed Polly that Thanksgiving Game 2024 vs. Lexington, at Lexington and CCHS Varsity Baseball always plays Lexington on Patriots Day. In 2025, game is scheduled to happen at Lexington on Patriots Day, but date will likely need to change.

There is a need for big article on Concord 250  
Concord Bridge would be best print option to inform / educate town about Concord 250th.

Discussion about Committees and which committees need more participants - Parade Committee may need some more participants, Memorial Committee is small, too.

Discussed improving the location where Middlesex Hotel was as a potential memorial gift. The parking lot / driveway goes right through middle of it. It's town property

Court informed us Concord new Middle school due to open April 2025

Discussed DEI info - it is just based on school population. We have no idea of diversity for non-school community. Only the decade census captures that.  
Perhaps the Bridge can do a half page questionnaire about nationality?  
We want to capture info on international population

There is a need to talk to Bridge about a DEI questionnaire

Liza said that the Ag. Comm. will keep Ag Day 2023 as a farmers event; but we can do something after event.

Maynard will do webinar with merchants late February / March.

Polly will reach out to COA about inviting someone to represent them on our subcommittee.  
Polly will reach out to Alicia Cleary about VoxConcordia model (short TED style talks by locals) and doing similar for celebration.

Committee set dates for upcoming meetings:  
First Wednesday of each month, next March 1st.  
Meeting adjourned 3:53pm

Several Committee members accompanied Maynard Forbes for tour of Masonic Temple / Hall.

Submitted by Polly Meyer

