



Concord 250: Community Participation Subcommittee
Minutes of the 2:00 pm April 2, 2025, Meeting (at the Hunt Gym)

Present: Holly Cratsley, Chair; Nancy McJennett, Clerk; Faye Allen, Joe Zellner, Maynard Forbes, Radha Jalan, Molly Eberle, Court Booth, Polly Meyer (arr. 2:25; left 2:50 pm), Kara Ebbutt **Absent:** Jeanine Calabria, Mardi Hutchinson

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm

Minutes of February 2025 meeting were amended to show that Maynard Forbes was not present. **It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved** to accept the February minutes as amended. **Minutes of the March 2025 meeting** were accepted as read.

Kara Ebbutt needs to be sworn in at the Town House as a committee member.

Executive Committee Updates: (Holly)

- **Last meeting tonight**, will be a forum. Things are still in flux and many overlapping events are happening.
- **Holly mentioned that other towns** haven't organized so many events as we have
- **Residence passes** (for those in the "road closure" zone) are in the mail.

Historic House Flags (Faye)

Postcards to non-respondents have been sent. Folks to pick up flags at Faye's at several scheduled dates.

Quilts250 Show (Molly & Holly)

- **Was a smash hit!** 3,000 attendees over the 2 days. Flower arrangements – Quilts in Bloom" – was a lovely addition. Thanks to Faye
- **Quilts were professionally photographed** at the end – potential book?
- **Lecture ticket sales = \$2700.** Could be a nest egg for a book. Will talk to Discover Concord publisher for advice.
- **20% of Boutique sales** will come to us, not the Town, to cover expenses not paid for by Town.
- **Total cost was about \$13,000**, including hall rental. **Kudos to Molly and the quilters!**

Shuttles (Polly & Holly)

- **Locations** will be saved after tonight's meeting. Polly needs **signs for "250 Shuttle Stop"** – perhaps Mimi Grainey can help with signs she already has made. We need different styles for some locations. **Est. cost = \$500;** hope for funds to cover.
- Polly is **uploading PDF info** for businesses to print themselves.
- **Shuttle schedule will be online**, but not obvious. Want to keep for residents on the Resident Info town page. **Emphasize no parking** at shuttle sites. Will send to 200 town entities.
- **Bikes not allowed** on shuttles, collapsible strollers are. Can flag down buses between stops. **There will be handicapped parking** by the Court House.
- **Kenter Davies**, flashmob singer, will be in town April 17 and 19. Other acts: CYT is presenting the Arlie Boys at 7 pm.
- **April 18, Medal of Honor dinner & ceremony**, at the Armory. \$250/seat.

- **One example of 250 merch from each store** will be posted on Resource Guide webpage
- **Polly hopes to release a podcast** next week; also creating a “Week at a Glance” for the first webpage.

Large Flag Ceremony at Monument Square will be on **April 12 at 11 am**. All are invited.

- **Captain of Concord Battery will speak. The Fire Department** will raise the flag. There will be a cannon and a trumpeter.

Town Decorations (Kara & Faye)

- **5 decorating workshops, starting this week.** Wreaths and bunting kits available, with special frames for COA event. (Molly has extra red and white cloth if needed.)
- **April 7:** Faye is installing a window display for the Concord Bookshop.
- **April 10, 9 am:** Nancy will help Faye put up the flower baskets in Concord Center.
- **April 18, 9 am:** Nancy will help Faye decorate the stage. Will seat 100 people.
- **April 17, Ken Burns at the Library:** Faye to arrange pro-bono flowers for the event.
- **Lanterns:** Kara to test the library’s “maker equipment” for cutting lanterns out.
- **Barbara of the BFRailTrail** seeks red, white, and blue ribbons to decorate the bike trail.

Ambassadors Update (Court)

- **160 signed up so far.** Will provide info, enhance safety, assist mobility, and be a buffer for the parade – which will have 12 Ambassadors in it. Will be check-ins every 2-hours; folks may be relocated as needed.
- **Dignitaries** so far are Governor (Keynote speaker).
- **Court will be at the Police Station;** Ray Andrews, who has enlisted as Deputy to Court, will be at Wright Tavern.
- **COA will offer** big-screen viewing on April 19. who has enlisted as Deputy to Court!
- **Ambassadors:** be aware of adjacent territory as well as your own.

Bridging Cultures/Block Party at 51 Walden (Holly)

- **Seven acts scheduled** to perform 3-to-8-minute routines. Include Taiko drummers (to start and end) Irish dancers, Chinese singers and dancers, Indian dancers and a historical skit, a piano player, and Shivani Dave, a Concord-born comedian. **Kudos to Holly** for organizing this array in a very tight timeframe!
- **The meeting discussed the need for CORI** checks on adults at 51 Walden. The general consensus was that someone would be in the changing room at all times and that “no adult would be alone with children” at any time. Holly will check with Fred Ryan. Shannon McAndrews at the Town House can run CORIs if needed.
- **Holly needs helpers** on April 19. She already has a custodian and a security person. **Sign up now!**

NEXT MEETING (tentative): May 27, 2025, time & location TBA. Wrap party & debrief!

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

--Nancy McJennett, Clerk pro-tem