

Nelson "250" Committee

October 18, 2015

Present: Allison Aldrich, Hunt Smith, Barbara & Don Bennett, John Bunce, Susan Hansel, Donna Kidd, Sam Romano, Bert Wingerson

Sam reported that the Old Home Day committee has not met; therefore no date has been set for 2017 and no further discussion re: speaker or events. John expressed concern that events of the "250" committee are separate from OHD activities.

Susan shared information from the Bi-Centennial held in 1967. Parke Struthers chaired, all events were held during the summer to include summer people; many during Old Home Week. Susan read a summary of events which included picnics, regattas, concerts, hikes, Queen of the Bi-Centennial..... noted in press releases. One item of interest to this group was the location of "old growth" trees. Al Stoops may be a resource for determining where these may be located - if any remain.

Bert inquired whether a compilation of stories from previous Grapevine issues was still considered for publication. Deb Navas is working on a book; gathering unpublished stories. Rick Church is collaborating with Ethan Tolman to compile stories and Karen Tolman has recently completed her book. It was suggested that a sub-committee form to determine what is being done and co-ordinate efforts.

Allison & Hunt reported on music and dance events proposed for 2017. They collaborated with Lisa Sievert and Monadnock Folklore Society. Possibilities include:

-Evening concert w/ Jeff Warner and a school event - sponsored in part by NH Humanities to Go program - Potential dates are 11/9 and 11/10/2017. Total cost for Town would be approx. \$650.

-Spring 2017 - Dances of Early America

- Summer/Fall 2017 - Dance - Adam Boyce "becomes" Ralph Page and calls a dance.
- School Strings program
- Singing School @ Town Hall - Tim Ericksen to lead shape note singing.
- Nelson Town Band

Allison suggested we pick a date in July 2017 to have "Celebrate Nelson Day". The group feels it is essential to include activities that promote participation of ALL residents. Ideas proposed include a parade and a re-enactment. Kathy Scott - Hinsdale Garrison group - do re-enactments by being in a place for the day as would happen during a specific time period. MacKenzie's field could be a perfect venue. July 8 & 9 or 7/15 & 16 are proposed dates.

Susan spoke w/ the Nelson School principal and staff and they want to be involved in 2017 events. "Hands-on" exposure to Nelson history activities would be wonderful for the children. Another idea was that students research people buried in Nelson cemetery.

Discussion regarding the budget included the reminder that proposals for each year must be spent within that year. It was decided that 2015 money will be spent for Old Hancock Glassworks commemorative medallion set up.

All Town Hall events in 2017 will not require rent \$.

Budget proposals of significant amounts will be required for 2017.

Barbara suggested that calendar proceeds help fund Grapevine stories publication.

The group discussed possible commemorative items. Sam will give name of potter to Susan. Edie Drinkwater may be able to help with purchasing as she has vendor's license. We would like to find a local potter who could create "Nelson" mugs.

Hunt shared commemorative coin idea. He has a friend who machines metal. Hunt will bring a proposed design idea to next meeting and we have our "250" logo design. No money would be required up front - subscription orders could be taken to determine interest.

Bert contacted Chris Salmon from Old Hancock Glassworks to create a glass medallion using our logo. \$410. would be necessary for 1st 100 items. Bert will get a P.O. and place order. These would be created in 2016 and be available to sell at various events.

Bert will speak with Dawn Garrett-Larsen at the Nelson Congregational Church re: possible involvement in 2017 activities.

The group agreed that our theme is:
"Celebrate Nelson 250: A Sense of Place."

It is time to create a master calendar. Allison said this could be on-line. Susan will ask Edie Drinkwater to assist. Donna will edit with Edie as event dates are determined.

Meeting adjourned: 5 PM

Next meeting: November 22, 2015 @ 3 PM Library Lower Level