

Nelson "250" Committee

Minutes: September 13, 2015

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

Sam Romano joined us to begin the partnership of the Nelson Old Home Day committee and the Nelson "250" committee; looking ahead to Old Home week 2017. She reviewed the typical schedule of Old Home week: Sunday church service, Monday; Carnival, Wednesday; Ham & Bean supper and activity at library, Thursday; Monadnock Music, Friday: children's movie and Saturday; Old Home Day.

Sam suggested that it will be important to have a special speaker at Old Home Day and Bert suggested Alan Rumrill because of his vast knowledge of Nelson history. Alan has done a program about old Nelson families in the past. Sam noted that the OHD committee usually pays \$100. to the speaker plus a chicken dinner.

Other comments included the fact that the animals were very popular this year, Fred French has a wealth of knowledge about Nelson, and that there used to be a reminiscing night during OH week.

Sam was asked to provide an actual date for Old Home Day 2017. She will report back after she meets with the OHD group on 10/13.

Allison and Hunt spoke with the group at length re: musical events throughout the year 2017. They will request that the Monadnock Music concert be on the Thursday evening of OH week. The Monadnock Folklore Society will promote events throughout the year. Many ideas were suggested including: a "kick-off" dance with Dudley Laufman and traditional music - Harvey & Dudley usually have a New Year's dance; an extra special Monday night dance during OH week; perhaps a program featuring the history of Nelson's long, unbroken tradition of dances - Ralph Page.....Dudley Laufman.....to current trends; an "Out of the Woods" event in early Spring; a "grand finale" event later in the year with younger folks headlining.

Other considerations included: an event featuring a "shape note" performance, the Nelson Town Band, Morris Dancers, Apple Hill and focus on young musicians via Apple Hill or the school, more "coffee house" experiences. Susan will speak w/ Lenny at Apple Hill to express our interest in their involvement during 2017 and their availability. Susan asked Allison & Hunt to please communicate with the various groups to gather information and potential dates for possible events.

Allison & Hunt have an affiliation with the Hinsdale Garrison Co. - a re-enactment group that may offer a different experience.

Bert will investigate the specific date during 1767 that Nelson became a town: month and day. Bells could ring on that day!

Bert will contact Chris Salmon, Old Hancock Glassworks, to see if he has interest in creating a light catcher medallion using our logo of the Old Brick Schoolhouse.

Donna and Susan have Nelson pottery items and all in the group will determine who may be able to create a commemorative piece for 2017. Karen said there was once a commemorative plate made and perhaps that could be done again.

Karen reported on the progress of the Quigley committee. The catalog is underway and 70 paintings have been photographed. The NH Council on the Arts is not funding the project w/out an educational component but that may still be a possibility.

Deb Navas is working on a collection of writings (not previously published). Rick Church continues to attempt collaboration with Ethan Tolman to publish.

The group wishes to involve the Nelson School in celebration of the sestercentennial year. Susan will speak with the new school principal. It was suggested that Rick Church and Al Stoops may be involved with the Trails Committee in activities oriented to the children.

Karen suggested a fine arts exhibit during the year. Perhaps Mary Cornog or Frankie Tolman could be encouraged to co-ordinate.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 10/18/15 at 3 PM in the lower level of the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna C. Kidd