

# MINUTES

## Harvard 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee

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*Date | time* 3/9/2018 9:30 AM | Harvard General Store, Harvard, MA *Meeting called to order by* Anne Hentz at 9:40 am

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### In Attendance

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Anne Hentz, Shannon Kinayman, Sherry Graham, Noyan Kinayman, Sarah von Conta

### Approval of Minutes and Old Business

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Anne Hentz approved the minutes, Sherry Graham seconded

### Approval of Agenda

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Agenda was unanimously approved via email on March 3/7/2018.

### Music

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- Anne contacted Caleb Green and Jon Schmidt to help find bands for the concert. Caleb is a Berklee School of Music student and Jon is a member of the Harvard band All Right, who will possibly play at the concert.
- Anne has also emailed Ashley Jordan to see if she might be able to play. Other bands discussed were JD West, Wheelhouse, Wendy Darling and the Lost Boy and the Rafters. (email update 3/13: Ashley Jordan is talking to her manager to see if she can play Fruitlands)
- Jeff Boisseau, the sound person from previous years, is able to do sound again for the events. Another sound person, Kyle Olmstead, is also in the wings as a backup. Jeff previously charged \$2000; will charge \$2500 this year.
- Bare Hill Band has agreed to play for a half hour set after the fireworks has concluded, hopefully helping to alleviate some of the issues with exiting safely and smoothly.
- Phoebe Clark has agreed to sing "Star Spangled Banner" for field events but has not committed to it yet. Caroline Hentz can fill in if need be; Phoebe von Conta and Grace Hickey can also sing a cappella if Phoebe cannot commit.

### Parade

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- Sherry has met with Christopher Chalifoux who is helping with the parade.
- Sherry learned from the COA that the oldest veteran in town is a nonagenarian nun living at the convent. She is very ill and we discussed possibly having her biological sister ride in the parade in her place.
- The Sister's story is fascinating; we discussed contacting Carlene Philips to write a story in the Press about her. Shannon will reach out to Carlene and cc Sherry.
- We agreed that we should find the second oldest vet and invite him/her, too, to ride in the parade.

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## Parade con't

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- Discussed the idea of a float for all vets but need to pin down the safest and most comfortable way for this to happen given that so many of the vets will be elderly. We discussed having an antique military vehicle that could drive the vets.
- Sherry will reach out to the COA again to help with locating vets. We will also invite younger vets and those in active duty to participate. We will advertise for them to join us on both Nextdoor and in the community notes section of the paper. Shannon will reach out to Sue Robbins.
- Discussed Joe Terrio and Richard Blynn (spelling on both?) as vets to contact.

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## T-Shirts

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- First t-shirt order went in 3/8 with a number of colors and cuts. We will spend around \$3200 for adult shirts, \$1700 on kids shirts and \$1500 on a limited number of Harvard "billboard t-shirts." (Email update 3/12: similar shirts are currently being printed to be sold at the Harvard General Store. We will abandon this idea.)
- Shannon will create a Sign Up Genius and start finding t-shirt sale volunteers in the near future.
- The Apple Blossom Festival is 5/12 and we will have a table there, per the usual. We will also sell on 5/5 at the HGS during Annual Town Meeting, putting a sign on the school door announcing sales down the street.

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## Corporate Sponsors

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- Anne will meet with Marie Sobalvarro 3/11 to discuss corporate sponsorship.
- Sarah von Conta shared her rough draft for funding solicitation and Anne shared a rough draft flyer for the same use. We discussed items that should be in the letter.
- Sarah will reach out to Carlene Philips if help is needed for Harvard 4<sup>th</sup> of July history.
- Places to contact: Rollstone Bank, Workers Credit Union, Murphy Insurance, One Main St. Bank of Ayer.
- Increasing fireworks and security would be something to use extra funds for.

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## Publicity

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- In addition to Vanessa Perini, Kathleen Turnbull is going to help with publicity
- We discussed how the website needs to be refreshed. Rene has begun making changes.

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## Other business

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- The price for admission is still being discussed. We are fearful that the “VIP spaces” idea will backfire if it doesn’t work, a possibility since parking is all run by volunteers. Others agreed and pricing and methods of ticket sales are still in discussion
- Also, police presence and upping security detail is still a worry to the committee. We may ask the Chief to hire more police for the evening of fireworks if we secure corporate sponsorship.
- All in favor of paying Nashoba Band \$200 to perform in the parade.
- Anne reported that the sign in front of Bromfield must be the 3’ x 11’ size and no larger, all in agreement that a new sign should be printed that is more eye-catching and easier to read.
- Discussed starting a scholarship. Anne talked with Stu Sklar and it’s her understanding all proceeds from the shirts must go to a fund if we decide to start a scholarship. Noyan, the new treasurer, will meet with the town treasurer about other items and put this unraveling this on his agenda. We discussed pros and cons of having a scholarship and also that this will probably need to happen next year should we go along with it.

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## Next meeting

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Next meeting TBD and will be posted.