



# TOWN OF VERNON

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[www.Vernon2008.org](http://www.Vernon2008.org)



## VERNON BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES - Wednesday, May 16, 2007 @ 7:00 PM

**Present;** -(21) Chairman-Rudy Rossmly, Mayor Ellen Marmer, Cheryl Arzt, James Ashe, Dick Bowman, Thomasina Clemons, Hank Cullinane, Cliff Edwards, Mary Edwards, Bryan Flint, Councilor-Bill Fox, Joseph Grunske, Karen Ann Miller, Chet Morgan, Donna Philipp, Carl Schaefer, Councilor Polly Schaefer, William J. Smith, Liz Stevenson, Stephen Taylor, Steve Wakefield

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Vernon Bicentennial Committee Chairman Rudy Rossmly.

### **I. Old Business**

The April 18, 2007 minutes were approved after minor changes.

Rudy Rossmly reported that the Mayor has executed an application for certificate of trade or service mark and it has been sent with a \$50.00 filing fee (paid for by the Town).

Also Mr. Rossmly advised that we now have letterhead and envelopes. 500 sheets of letterhead were donated by Wayne Johnson of Minuteman Press and envelopes were printed at a cost of \$53.00 by Market Press

### **A. Committee Reports**

#### **1. Events Committee**

Thomasina Clemons reported that there are two types of events scheduled. The first are events given substantial support by the Bicentennial Committee. The following have been scheduled:

10/13/07	kickoff
02/??/08	drama for 3 <sup>rd</sup> graders
5/10/08	Costume Ball
5/10/08	start of Beard Contest
6/15/08	Talcottville Muster
Summer '08	Teen splash party
Summer '08	Rubber Duck Race

9/13/08	Torchlight parade
10/5/08	Vernon Parade
10/5/08	Beard contest ends
10/13/08	Formal ball (tentative date) – chaired by Polly Schaefer
Summer '08	Civil War Encampment (date unknown)
Summer '08	Old Time Baseball Game (date unknown) – chaired by Jeff Adamson? (contact Frank Janton, Coventry umpire)

The second type of events are those for which the Bicentennial Committee has given its blessing, but has no direct involvement. The following are of this second type:

Vernon Historical Society's lectures  
House Tour  
Cemetery Walk

Ms. Clemons brought up the question as to who will do the bulk of the clerical tasks involved in events. Mr. Rossmly indicated that the chair of each event would work with the publicity department.

## **2. Scheduling Committee**

Steve Wakefield identified a need for a pool of individuals willing to be occasional volunteers. Mr. Rossmly replied that committee heads are responsible for volunteers for their events.

Mr. Wakefield reiterated that the events and scheduling committees are separate entities and that the scheduling committee is reactive to submissions not proactive in posting events. To set up an event, call Ms. Clemons, for calendar-related concerns contact Mr. Wakefield, especially to post the dates of events.

## **3. Historical Committee**

Jim Ashe and Cheryl Arzt were both in attendance and Mr. Ashe recommended that on October 13, 2007, to mark the beginning of the bicentennial year that a small ceremony be held including a speech by the mayor and that all the bells in town be rung simultaneously. Then on October 13, 2008, the same events occur to mark the close of the bicentennial year.

Mayor Marmer suggested that a Bicentennial sign be placed in front of the Vernon Historical Society for the year (the content to be determined by Bryan Flint.

Mr. Ashe indicated the Vernon Historical Society is willing to move up the dates to coincide with the kickoff.

Mr. Edwards had viewed the DVD and noted that it appeared to be targeted to a grammar school level – not our target audience. Cheryl Arzt questioned if it was to be used just for presentation or resale? It was suggested that we have a videographer, perhaps we could pre-sell a DVD of the Bicentennial

celebration events. Ms. Schaefer suggested we contact RHS to help develop a DVD

#### **4. Parade Committee**

The Parade Committee report was presented by co-chair Carl Schaefer. The dates have been set, all that needs to be done is formalizing.

Dick Bowman indicated that school officials say the construction at Rockville High School should not present a problem for the lineup. Mr. Bowman has been in contact with Russ Dowd, Property Manager for DLC Corp. (Tri-City Plaza). He has given the initial approval to use Tri-city to disband, pending more specifics on timing and the required space.

Mr. Bowman indicated a need for more volunteers, specifically a corresponding secretary. Karen Ann Miller has volunteered to act in that capacity.

Mr. Bowman also indicated a need to develop a letter inviting participants at the local and state level. Bands at RHS and VCMS have already been notified as to the date.

#### **5. VIP and Special Guest Committee**

Chet Morgan has stated that the VIP list is all set except for the winners of the next Town election. Miss Connecticut sent special greetings to Chet and an autographed picture has been entered into the minutes.

#### **6. Advertising Book Committee**

Claire Janowski was unable to attend due to legislative session. She sent word that volunteers are needed.

#### **7. Publicity Committee**

Cliff Edwards has prepared a sample tri-fold brochure, "Count-Down to 200" for continuity and contact information. This information will be set up on the website with links and Bryan Flint will be the contact. There was some discussion as to the advisability of defining contributor levels. It was decided that the ad-book and finance committees needed to get together to resolve the issue.

Mr. Edwards stressed the urgency of getting the printing done to be ready for distribution at the Elks' Memorial Day celebration on 5/28 and the Day in the Park on 6/14. Also, the price is reduced dramatically if at least 1000 brochures are printed.

Polly Schaefer suggested we check with the Reminder to stuff the brochures in one of their weekly deliveries.

Karen Ann Miller asked what address we were using – all donations should be sent to the Bicentennial Committee at the Town Hall on Park Street in Rockville.

## **8. Finance/Fundraising Committee**

Liz Stevenson had nothing to report.

Mr. Edwards noted that the t-shirts are ready to be sold, but we need a place to keep them and someone to collect the money – he is unable to take it on since he is already running a similar fundraiser for another organization. Ms. Stevenson agreed to take this on.

Ms. Schaefer indicated a need for a date to start selling souvenirs and the need for money to order same. The commemorative plates will be numbered 1-200.

Ms. Miller stated that we need a chair for the tag sale.

## **II. New Business**

There was a discussion of the flags to be purchased. The permanent 3'x5' flag, which will be displayed at Town Hall will cost between \$800 and \$1,000 and will be given to the Vernon Historical Society at the end of the year.

4'x6' color guard flags will cost \$100 each with a minimum order of 20 or \$160 with a minimum order of 6. These flags will be distributed to the fire stations, police stations and schools for display.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

**Next General Meeting:** Wednesday, June 20, 2007 at 7:00pm at Vernon Senior Center

Respectfully submitted by Donna Philipp, Recording Secretary