

**Town of Boscawen
Old Home Day
Boscawen Municipal Complex
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 17th, 2021 at 6:00 PM**

Present: Polly Dawson - Chair, Lori Bernard, Kim Kenney, Lyman Cousens, Rhoda Bergeron & Matthew Burdick– Ex-Officio

Excused: Beverly Lacey, Laura Lane & Susan Dukette

Others Present: Hannah Gardner- Recording Secretary

Chair Polly Dawson opened the public meeting at 6:00pm.

Chair Dawson read off the Covid-19 Public Meeting Notice of Telephonic Meetings, which reads as follows: In light of the state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020, and to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chair has determined that an emergency exists and that accordingly, until further notice, (a) members of the board may attend all board meetings telephonically, without the physical presence of a quorum; and (b) members of the public who wish to participate in hearings may, on request, participate telephonically or submit comments in writing to be included in the record of the hearing.

Roll call completed by Chair Dawson.

Minutes:

April 19th, 2021– Mr. Lyman Cousens motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Rhoda Bergeron. All in favor. None opposed.

- Chair Polly Dawson has one request, line 42, change “she” to “Chair Polly Dawson”.
- Chair Dawson has one request, line 87, change “Old Home Day” to “the Town Hall”.

Financial Report:

Chair Dawson stated the financial report through 05.17.21 shows a balance of \$26,255.21.

Chair Dawson motioned to accept the financial report through 05.17.21. Seconded by Ms. Lori Bernard. All in favor. None opposed.

BINGO:

No 2021 BINGO. The Committee needs to find a place to hold 2022 BINGO. Mr. Matthew Burdick suggested reaching out to Horace Chase. He said the brothers at the lodge may let the Committee use the space for BINGO. They hold public breakfast downstairs at their facility. They also have a kitchen. Chair Dawson will look into touring the facility. Chair Dawson said Rhoda Hardy may know someone to talk to there. Mr. Burdick will also mention it to Town Administrator Alan Hardy.

Old Home Day: Chair Dawson reported she contacted Baker Valley Inn for the parade. They are willing to be in the parade. Mr. Cousens and Chair Dawson stopped at Electra Sola and one issue that arose was that they don't have a theme. People enjoy a theme and usually decorate for it. Ms. Kim Kenney suggested doing a fun theme pertaining to being back for the whole community. Chair Dawson doesn't think deciding in a month will be too late because people still sign up a week before. She came up with the theme "happy to see you". She is asking if the Committee has any better ideas for a theme. Mr. Burdick mentioned "Welcome Back to Reality". Ms. Kenney said everything for Saturday OHD, Town Administrator, Alan Hardy should have all the contracts except for the Balloon Twister. They confirmed the 1pm show will be a musician for children. At 3pm they will have a stunt bike ride and at 5pm there will be a juggler. The balloon twister is scheduled to come at 1pm until 5:30pm. He will be \$50 more because it is a half-hour longer. Her thought was that he could make balloons as shows are going on. She covered all of the shows with him. They are going to buy ice cream. She has an idea for a backup band if they are available. She would prefer Liz, but she hasn't heard back from her. Ms. Laura Lane previously said Liz had a wedding but that she would touch base with her about it. Ms. Kenney called Den Bray and will call Deb on Wednesday to meet with her. Ms. Kenney talked to a community member about Old Home Day and the member asked if the Committee has the public just make donations. Ms. Kenney said they haven't done that; they only send out to local businesses. The community member said that if it was for the community and children, people may be interested in making small donations. Ms. Kenney asked if they could put something in a news vine that states families can make a donation to OHD for any amount and send it to the Town Hall. Mr. Burdick said he could mention it in the Select Board meeting, and it would go in the notes to the Town inquiry. He would have to make sure it is legal. The Committee thinks it would be a great idea to offer to families the ability to make any amount of donation to OHD. They need to emphasize that everything for the kids is free at OHD. Mr. Burdick will find out who they would bring the donation to at the Town and if it is something that is accomplishable.

- Chair Dawson said the firework people are all set to go. Last year they had 7500 fireworks from the town but this year they only got 4000. She asked the Committee how much they want to spend on fireworks. Ms. Kenney recalled having a conversation at a prior meeting about wanting to have a \$5000 limit because they didn't want to pay more for the bigger and louder ones. Chair Dawson said the town was going to give them \$5000 last year for fireworks before OHD got cancelled. Ms. Kenney remembers paying extra to get the fireworks that are higher and louder. Chair Dawson will call tomorrow and have an answer for next meeting. Mr. Cousens thinks the price will go up. Chair Dawson believes she mentioned \$6000 being the minimum but she will clarify. Mr. Cousens asked Chair Dawson to find out what the big one's cost and then they will vote on it. Chair Dawson estimated \$7500 for the bigger ones. She remembers last year they had to get approval for the bigger ones on Farmer's field.
- Ms. Kenney said that she told all of her entertainers that in the contract they put together, if they cancel in advance because of COVID reasons that they wouldn't be charged money. She worries because she remembers Chief Kenney stating if they are in a drought, they may have to cancel OHD. She suggested asking the fireworks people if

they have it written in their contract that for any reason before the event they need to cancel, the Committee won't be charged.

- Mr. Cousens asked Ms. Kenney how she is putting together the registration form. He suggested doing a cover letter explaining what they are doing, the kid's events and reasons why they should donate. Ms. Kenney asked entertainers to send a flyer that promotes their event. She will try to hand out flyers to kids at school before the end of the year. Ms. Kenney wants to keep the registration form to one page, but she will change the top paragraph to explain the events, fireworks and kids benefits. Mr. Cousens suggested mentioning the \$500 sponsorship they need in order to get the big fireworks. Ms. Kenney said she thinks it may backfire as well by putting information in. Some people may say the fireworks are too loud or they scare their dogs. She thinks they should just leave it open. Ms. Kenney asked Mr. Cousens what needs to be done by the next meeting. He said the mailing needs to be done. She asked Mr. Cousens when the registration form should be mailed out. They should be mailed out on June 1st.

Electra Sola:

Mr. Cousens said people try to design their float based on what the theme is. Mr. Cousens reported that Electra Sola will be doing something the Tuesday before, but it has not yet been determined what they will do. He thinks they want to orient it towards children. They are going to hold it at the Winthrop Carter Wedding venue. He wrote to Katie to ask if Electra Sola can use it. She hasn't answered back yet so he will call her again.

Golf Tournament:

Ms. Kenney has three golf teams committed. She also made a list of people who may be possibly interested. Ms. Kenney modified changes to the letter that goes out to businesses. She is meeting with Finance Director Katie Phelps tomorrow to go over it and see if she can make a copy. The one big change Ms. Kenney made was that under sponsorships, she gave the choices for the amount they choose to sponsor for. She read one of the major changes she made to get the Committee's opinion. She took out the content related to suffrage of loss due to BINGO because she thinks it is already known.

New Business:

- Ms. Kenney asked Mr. Burdick about having meetings in-person. She was wondering if they had a designated place to meet that isn't in the Town Office, could they meet in person now that the State mandate is lifted. Mr. Burdick said it is by committee and decided by each committee chair. Ms. Kenney asked if she could ask the Fire Chief to hold meetings at the fire station. Other people are currently meeting there. Mr. Burdick asked if the other people are on boards or if they are private organizations. Ms. Kenney clarified that no one is meeting their yet, but Chief Kenney said that OHD Committee could if they got approved. Mr. Burdick said they can bring it up at the Select Board meeting. He said technically they can meet wherever they want because we are all private citizens. Ms. Kenney suggested meeting at someone's house as well.
- Chair Dawson mentioned the police check that they usually have to sign. No one has signed stating they are part of the OHD committee for over a year and a half. Many of the committee members times have expired. Ms. Rhoda Bergeron said her time expired a

long time ago. Chair Dawson said she will ask Ms. Phelps if the Committee members need to resign and get their fingerprints done. They also have to take an oath of office.

- Ms. Kenney asked if the Committee will meet in person next month. Chair Dawson said yes, she will find a place they can meet.

- **Next meeting:**

Monday, June 21st, 2021 @ 6:00PM

Mr. Cousens motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Chair Dawson. All in favor. None opposed.

Respectfully submitted by Hannah Gardner