



Approved MINUTES

Old Home Days Meeting (OHD)

Hollis Middle School

5 October 2023

Meeting start: 6:03

Meeting end: 7:59 (JS /AB)

Voting Members Participants: Corinne Beaubien (CB), Jan Schwartz (JS), Cindy Archeri (CA), Anna Birch (AB), KC Morgan (KC), Kelly Anderson (KA), Judy Mahoney (JM)

Community Participants: Peter Jones (PJ), Donna Cormier (DC), Honi Glover (HG), Kari Bard (KB), Penny Edwards (PE), Barbara Kowalski (BK), Mike Mattock (MM)

Select Board Rep: Susan Benz

Staff: Lori Radke

1. 2023 OHD Dates: September 8 and September 9
2. Approve minutes dated 31 August 2023 Anna made a motion to approve and Kelly seconded. All voted unanimously to accept.
3. Chair Report – Corinne Beaubien
 - a. Corinne discussed making OHD dates permanently the third week in September. This would help with vendors and schools getting applications etc. into the committee. Corinne made a motion and Anna second. All unanimously voted on the date change.
 - b. We had a discussion on voting positions vs community participants. It was unclear to the committee how the number of voting positions were allocated. We also discussed the need for having a couple of members designated as alternates.
4. Treasury Report – Barbara Kowalski
 - a. Barbara presented a cost breakdown of revenue and expenditures.
 - b. The committee discussed the OHD balance, and the group suggested that the OHD committee make “gift baskets” for the DPW, Fire, Police, and the town Hall not to exceed \$500. In addition, we discussed donating permanently installed Bike racks to be installed at the Lawrence Barn with a not to exceed budget of \$3,000. Anna made a motion for the expenditures and Conna seconded. The committee unanimously approved. Work should be coordinated with the Recreation Department.
5. Entertainment – Cindy Archeri

a. The overall opinion of the participants was that the new location of the stage worked very well. Big Hit!

b. Discussed using the same AV equipment for the pre fireworks entertainment. Should not bring in separate equipment. Will save time in set up and tear down.

c. Cindy is looking for someone to take over entertainment next year. She will be available to help train/advise.

6. Parade - Jan Schwartz

a. The parade had over 40 groups and over 500 participants.

b. Much discussion over “announcements” The application will be changed next year to limit the number of words to be spoken by the announcer for approaching groups. The application will limit the announcement to 20 words or less. There will be a deadline. Changes cannot be made up to the minute. This has caused confusion and extra work on the committee. Groups not submitting applications may not get announced.

c. We also discussed getting the High School athletic schedule to determine if area could be used in staging the parade.

7. Social media – Anna Birch

a. FB posts were a huge help in getting the OHD information out.

b. Individual Flyers were recommended for next year. Local businesses etc.

8. Artisan Market/ Heritage – K.C. Morgan

a. Had issues with heat being set too high in the barn. Need to investigate if can be adjusted. May have been affected with doors being opened and closed.

b. The committee struggled to get heritage demonstrators this year. Not sure if date/schedule was issue or just finding appropriate people.

c. One of the biggest issues was our expectation to have demonstrators there for an extended time. Too long of a stretch to keep involved.

d. The committee will start to check out other options for heritage. Perhaps investigate homesteading activities.

9. Vendors/ Field Layout- Kelly Anderson

a. 94 booths spread out. Leaving some gaps allowed for movement.

b. Many issues in setting up and traffic in the morning due to heavy rains.

c. The committee discussed the need for a “Code of Conduct” for all participants. It was determined that each booth would always require an adult on site. Kelly is drafting a document for the committee to review and adopt.

10. Auction/Raffle Baskets – Kari Bard

a. The Auction and Baskets were a great success. Kari was complimented on a great job.

11. Pet Pageant – Jan Schwartz

a. The pageant was smaller than last year.

b. Will be working on new ideas and categories for next year.

12. New Business/ Overall Comments

a. Parking continues to be an issue. Lack of space. With rain this year, many residents had issues. It was discussed there may be a “private” field that could be used for parking. This will need to be investigated.

b. The committee could not say enough how wonderful the Cheer and Football players did in managing the parking situation and availability. Last year the teams worked only for “tips”. This year due to rain and lack of parking spaces the tips were much lower than hoped. The committee wanted to make sure the teams were compensated for their hard work. Anna made a motion to donate \$500 each to cheer and football teams for their hard work. To ensure that we would have them volunteer again next year, the committee also included that the same donation be made to them for next year’s event. Jan seconded the motion. Corinne and Cindy abstained from voting. The remaining committee members unanimously approved.

c. The committee discussed the need for more Support from the Town. This will be discussed further in upcoming meeting.

15. At this time we have not scheduled our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Mahoney
Secretary