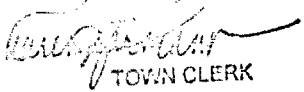


Meeting Minutes  
Special Meeting  
300<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary  
Wednesday, June 27, 2018 | 6:30PM  
Warren Memorial Town Hall  
Veteran's Room

RECEIVED  
STAFFORD, CT  
2018 JUL 11 A 10:16  
  
TOWN CLERK

In attendance: Donna Wright, Paul Burns, Terry Armelin, Jean Beckley and Amber Wakley  
Absent: Allyson Diana, Lisa Baxter, Lori Gianantoni, Rick Hartenstein  
Also in attendance: Blake Hatch, Brenda Simons, Jamie Furness

- 1) **ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Quorum was established and chair, Amber Wakley, called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.
- 2) **REVIEW SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 5, 2018** Paul Burns made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 6/5/18 special meeting, Donna Wright seconded the motion, and minutes were unanimously approved by all members.
- 3) **CLOCK** – we are currently waiting for the renderings to return from the Verdin Clock Company, which will depict the post clock in various locations along Main Street. The group has narrowed options to the 3 clock types, which will be voted upon when more members are present. We're hoping to select the clock in the next meeting, based on aesthetics and overall cost.
- 4) **READ CITIZENS ADVISORY AND EMAIL SUGGESTIONS**
  - Train/trolley throughout town
  - Contest for best suggestions for preserving Stafford
  - Youth activism: what role can kids play in political and societal change
  - Re-showing of our history films w/ pre-film lecture
  - Horse Race
  - Primitive crafts
  - Hobby horse racing
  - Music festival in Hyde park
  - Curate a "Stafford Arts Through Time" exhibit that will be on display at the library for the month of April.
  - Plan a poetry reading with poems about Stafford and use the anthology of poems and poets that Bruce Dutton edited. More details to come.

5) **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

**HISTORICAL**

- Paul Burns shared that Stafford Fire Department No. 1 will be celebrating its 85th Anniversary with an open house slated for May 18. The firehouse will feature historic relics, memorabilia, antique radios and more. We would like to support and enrich this function.
- Jamie attended a series of farm/home tours and town anniversary events in the past few weeks. In East Windsor, she described a colonial encampment with live demonstrations, including: cooking, sewing, cannon firing, medical tent and more. The reenactment was augmented with food trucks, which brought a broader range of participants.

- To accomplish the series of offerings the group needs to recruit more volunteers, complete logistical planning and continue confirmation of a clear list of events with dates. Additionally, the committee will make contact with the schools once again.

### **BEAUTIFICATION**

- Donna and Terry discussed bringing back home holiday decoration contests, including Christmas, Halloween and Patriotic themes. The group discussed the idea of having each village (West Stafford, Staffordville, Borough, etc.), compete against one another. The winners from each respective village could go on to contend town-wide. We'll discuss more in meetings to come.
- Inspired by a home in Staffordville that was recently improved by new plantings and floral baskets, Donna suggested having an "improved property" recognition program for residents working to visually progress the exterior of their homes. The "Stafford Pride" program would feature before and after photos, along with associated stories of those improving outdoor spaces. The initiative would be broad - whether it's a child who has taken care of a planter or a resident who has rehabbed a property - we could recognize their accomplishments.

### **PARADE & PARTY**

- The parade committee met, the route being a main topic of conversation. Scheduled for September 21, 2019, The parade will begin on Furnace Avenue and finish at Stafford Motor Speedway. The committee discussed several different routes, which include: Furnace-Main-Center-West to the "fairgrounds" or Furnace-Main-West Main-West to the "fairgrounds." The committee commented that it would be wonderful to have the parade loop around the Wall of Honor at Olympic Circle. It could be the opportunity to honor those residents who served in WW1 and WW2, as well as create better parade flow (versus take a sharp turn on West Street).

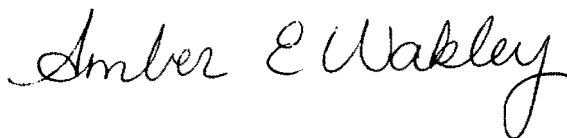
### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

- We need to move forward with time capsule planning and preparation.
- We talked about pairing the Civil War Reenactment with FallFest in 2019.
- We need to order lawn signs, now, that will promote Stafford's 300<sup>th</sup> is coming in 2019. Amber will obtain pricing. The Fire Department is ordering challenge coins in mid-July, we should see about collaborating on the order.
- Need to establish merchandise needs - magnets, mugs, drinking cups, pencils, pens, wind chimes, mouse pads, etc. - and begin phases of ordering.
- Connect with Avery Park and Woodland Springs to involve residents in events.
- Invite Stafford Arts Commission and Stafford Arts Society to join a future meeting.

### **6) MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Paul Burns made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Terry Armelin, all in favor. The June 27, 2018, meeting of the 300<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Committee was adjourned at 8:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Amber Wakley