

Town of Stafford  
Events & Celebrations Committee  
Virtual Meeting

Special Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 6:30pm  
Meeting Minutes

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*W. Hoffmann*  
TOWN OF STAFFORD

Committee Members Present: Brian Goepfrich, Phen Harison, Rey Fabrizio, Laura Lybarger, Brian Jakusik, Chelsea Bellefleur, Cassandra Forsythe

Members Absent: Beth Stringfield, Jodi Harmon

Others Present: Alycia Johnston, Amber Wakley (*Town Representative*), Kitty Schooley

**1. Establish quorum and call the meeting to order.**

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

**2. Review and accept 2/14/2023 meeting minutes.**

Laura Lybarger motioned to approve the minutes without any changes, Brian Goepfrich seconded Laura's motion, and all committee members voted in the affirmative.

**3. Review committee mission/vision statement.**

Discussion of the mission/vision statement was tabled.

**4. Discuss Community-Wide Cleanup, scheduled for 4/22/23.**

Laura Lybarger reported progress of the "Keep Stafford Beautiful" youth poster contest, with the winning poster to be used to advertise Stafford's Community-wide Cleanup Day. The Stafford Library and Town Hall will collect submissions, naming three winners for cash prizes, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Stafford and Stafford Lions Club. She asked members to share the contest on social media and help advertising efforts. A presentation of winners and checks will take place at the Rotary Club Meeting on April 5.

The conversation continued to the Appreciation Picnic in Park that is slated to follow cleanup efforts. So far, the Stafford Garden Club, Agriculture Commission, Willington Nameplate, and West Stafford Congregational Church have signed up to host an activity or booth. The Lions Club will serve coffee and donuts from 8:00am – 2:00pm. Laura is going to address the Rotary Club about providing pizza for the picnic. Brian Goepfrich suggested contacting the Nipmuck Trail organization for a possible tabletop presenter. Amber Wakley shared she intended on applying for a The Last Green Valley Cleanup Grant, which will provide reimbursable funds for cleanup supplies – trash bags, gloves, and vests.

The Committee then discussed logistics and reviewed a Hyde Park map to designate event areas. Supply pickup and Lions Club refreshments will be located behind the Historical Society. The roll off dumpster will be located next to the Witt School in the small lot next to Hyde Park Road. This will allow participants to dispose garbage, and then park along Hyde Park Road to enjoy activities at the picnic. Amber Wakley will create a bird's eye view map of activity areas. The Committee discussed the need for directional signage.

Laura reported that Interact Students have volunteered to help on the day. She also inquired about water for volunteers. The Committee discussed possible water donations. Being Earth Day, Brian Goepfrich posed the idea of utilizing water bottles and large jugs to reduce plastics. Amber Wakley offered use of the remaining 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bottles and to purchase a waterspout. Chelsea Bellefleur is going to contact Village Springs to ask about an in-kind water donation. The Committee then discussed obtaining more garbage cans and requesting restroom access.

The Committee discussed promotions, including posters, press releases, town-wide communications, and the digital boards.

**5. Discuss events calendar and potential future activities.**

The Committee discussed Memorial Day Observances on May 29, and requirement efforts for the Parade. Registration is currently active. Brian Goepfrich said he put in a request for the UConn Marching Band.

SummerFest was lightly discussed, including event activities, vendors, and recruiting civic organization and commission participation. The Lion's Club is slated to host a Corn Hole Tournament and the Rotary Club is organizing an activity. Brian Goepfrich suggested posting that organizations should formalize a carnival-type activity to broaden hosted participation.

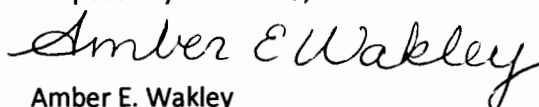
Laura Lybarger updated the Committee on the Rotary Means Business Networking event on March 28, which will feature guest speaker Carl Rosa from the Connecticut Main Street Center. Twenty people have registered so far, and advertising efforts will continue over the next few weeks.

Kitty Schooley mentioned that the Lion's Club is looking for volunteers to help unload kayaks from participant vehicles during the Moonlight Paddle in August.

**6. Adjournment**

Laura Motioned to adjourn the committee meeting, Brian Jakusik seconded the motion, all members voted in the affirmative. The meeting concluded at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Amber E. Wakley