

**Draft - 350th Anniversary Steering Committee Meeting  
On June 6, 2023**

Remote Meeting Connection:

Meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access and, where required, public participation provided, in accordance with Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022 which extended the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until March 31, 2023. Meetings are typically broadcast on Frontier Community Access Television (FCAT).

**Roll Call: Quorum present**

Peter Thomas, chair, present  
Carolyn Ness, voting member, present  
Jay Stryker, voting member, absent  
Holly Lankowski, voting member, present  
Kelly Charest, voting member, absent  
Diane Martin, voting member, present  
Telecommunications coordinator: Pat Kroll  
Friends of Deerfield: none in attendance  
Others: none in attendance

**Meeting called to order:** 6:35 pm

**Minutes for this meeting:** The Steering Committee is currently without a recording secretary. Peter T. will create draft minutes and submit for posting.

**Call for motion to adopt/modify agenda:** add mural update to new business

**AGENDA**

***Old Business***

- ❖ **Approval of minutes from May 23 meeting.** It was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held on May 23 as written.
  
- ❖ **1973 Time Capsule Update.** Peter T. reported that he had gone through all of George Melnik's (chair person's) notes and minutes of meetings for the 300<sup>th</sup> and found no reference to a time capsule, nor was a committee created for such a purpose. It was proposed that the lawn in front of Tilton Library near the reconciliation monument be used as the site for the 350<sup>th</sup> time capsule. As the library will be under construction this fall, heavy equipment will likely be on site and can be used to dig the hole. A formal vote on the location was postponed until all Steering Committee members are present.

### ❖ **Tables for Local Groups at 350th Events**

*Valley Neighbors*, a group that provides assistance to seniors, has requested that they be allowed to set up an information table at the post-parade event site adjacent to the grammar school on June 17. Peter T. will contact FoD to let them know and to see if an area can be established for a similar purpose should other requests be made. Other requests should be forwarded to Peter T. to obtain permission. He will pass the information on to Friends of Deerfield.

### ❖ **Post-Parade Event Update** No update was presented.

### ❖ **Parade Working Group Update**

- A volunteers meeting will be held tomorrow evening.
- Holly L. and Rocky Foley met with public safety representatives to answer any questions, review stations, logistics, etc. Everything seems well in hand. The representatives – police, fire, EMS, etc – have worked very well with the parade working group.
- Holly L. and parade working group met with John B. and Kevin M. from FCAT to identify the site of the reviewing stand (in front of 80 North Main Street), identify equipment needs, and discuss procedures. The parade will be live-streamed and will be broadcast again soon thereafter. A final version will be edited for archival purposes.
- Carolyn N. verified who will be seated on the town float and discussed the anticipated decorations.
- Kelly C. is working on a map showing the parade route, parking areas, restrooms, etc.
- The parade working group will meet every evening from Monday through Thursday of next week to address any last-minute issues.
- The parade working group will give the selectboard a final update at 6 pm on Wednesday, June 14.

### ❖ **Working History Group Update**

- Peter T. is preparing a talk for Historic Deerfield's *Summer Speaker Series* about the Pocumtuck, to be given on July 6 at 7 pm. The specific location has yet to be identified. Other talks will be given by Collin Calloway and Marj Bruchac on July 13 and July 20.
- Proposal for a Harvest and Heritage Festival, Oct 14 and 15. Steering Committee working group, PVMA, Polish American Club, Friends of Deerfield.

- Focus on Eastern European immigrants; German and Irish immigrants may also be included
- A very tentative program was suggested.
  - On Saturday, October 14 from 12 noon to 5 pm at 10 Memorial Street in Deerfield the program could include music, Polish cultural and craft speakers and demonstrations, Polish genealogy, amber and Polish items for sale, family activities, an Ellis Island immigration program, displays of immigrant photos and artifacts, and local produce from area farmers. Free refreshments of Polish and Ukrainian desserts, coffee, tea, and bottled water will be available. The public may opt to purchase lunch from a Polish food truck on Saturday. Memorial Hall Museum will be open from 11 am to 4:30 pm and will offer an unguided tour of immigrant items in the museum.
  - On Sunday, October 15 from 1 pm to 4:30 pm at Frontier Regional School in South Deerfield, the program will feature Polish and Ukrainian folk dancers; Dr. James Pula will speak on the Kosciuszko Squadron -its creation after WWI and its role in helping to win the Battle of Britain; and displays of immigrant photos and artifacts. Free refreshments of Polish and Ukrainian desserts, coffee, tea, and bottled water will be available.
- All Steering Committee members were strongly in favor of pursuing this proposal.

❖ **Friends of Deerfield Update:** No update was provided.

*New Business Not Anticipated*

❖ **Mural Update**

Judith Inglese sent Peter T. a preliminary draft of her proposed ceramic mural. Peter made a couple of minor suggestions, but overall, it is a wonderful piece of artwork. Judith will prepare a colored version for Steering Committee review and comment. No time for such a presentation was established.

❖ **Schedule for the next meeting :** Monday, June 26, at 6:30 pm.

❖ **Meeting adjournment:** Motion to adjourn, voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.