

Community Events Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2013

Committee Members in Attendance: Les Dion, Barbara Greenwood, Gylene Salmon, Hilda Bruno, Lucille Keegan, Chief Yannuzzi, Christina Goodwin, Marjorie Gorman

Business Members in Attendance: Rachel Clayman – Bristol Shop ‘n Save, Garlyn Manganiello – Basic Ingredients, Pat Field – TD Bank, Steve Favorite – Favorite Tele. Group, Jodie Favorite – Your Favorite Decorator, Ray Courchaine – Bristol Media, John Bianchi – Union Masonic Lodge, Janet Cote – The Newfound Experience, Betsy Schneider – Fred’s Auto Trends, Diane Masessa – Old Mill Properties, Vincent Paul Migliore – Budget Blinds, Anson Smith – Anson Smith Associates, Nicole Goudrea – Earthly Treasures, Chris Goudreau – Aries Electric

This meeting was the first scheduled meeting to incorporate area businesses into community planning.

**Introductions:**

Introductions were made within the group. Chief Yannuzzi explained the intent of this meeting was to give area businesses some information regarding the Community Events Committee and open discussions regarding the direction for events and planning for the Town of Bristol as a whole.

**Committee Background**

Les Dion explained that the Committee has been in existence for approximately six (6) years. Originally it began as the Old Home Day and Summer Concert group but over the years it has evolved into many events.

**Current Events**

The Committee began this year with the creation of a Summer and Winter Events brochure that lists the events out of the season.

**Brainstorming**

Discussions took place to get ideas on expanding the current events, what the focus should be, how to get more involved, etc. Great information was shared including the following key items:

- Continue with the NH Marathon – great event
- Expand marathons or races – maybe something more compact
- Bring the Lake and the Downtown together in events
- Expand events to cover the long time between Memorial Day and July
- Create an identity
  - Area to come for a race
  - Runners Paradise
  - Solar Energy
- Create a fun event – give people more reason to come
- Involve community – bring in new faces/participants

- Push for types of retail opportunities such as antiquing
- Get your friends involved
- Pull in kid participation
  - Utilize High School Community Service programs
  - Utilize Extended Learning Opportunities with the schools
- Involve Plymouth Chamber of Commerce
- Hold a Downtown Party – to promote and showcase the improvements
- Promote and support pride in ownership
- Work on the Economic Development piece with the businesses
- Issue challenges to the businesses to create independent ideas on their and promote
- Use Recognition as Motivation
- Expand advertising
  - Utilize more social media
  - Move bulletin board back to the Square
  - Have a Kelley Park sign in the Square
- Expand existing events
  - Apple Festival – push to a community wide event
  - Lights on event – community businesses hand out discount cards or punch cards
- Consider these types of events
  - Decorating contests
  - Shop Local Events – Buy Local
  - Community Theater
  - Art Exhibits
  - Music Festivals
  - Where are they now – High School graduates and where they are – including both those who may have traveled abroad and those who have stayed in the community and work on things to improve the community

The group agreed that an 8:00am meeting time works better for them so future meetings will be moved to this time. The website will be corrected as well.

Chief Yannuzzi reminded the group of next week's Holiday Event with the craft fair and one stop shop at the TTCC, caroling in the Square and the Tree Lighting event with Santa. Christina updated the group that logistically the downtown parking area will need to be closed from 4:00pm to 6:30pm.

Christina also reminded the group that there is a special fundraiser for a student in the Newfound District on Friday night. It is an all you can eat spaghetti supper for Ty Clark who is a Groton student. It will be held at the Bridgewater Town Hall from 5-7pm.

**The next scheduled meeting, with the hope of having additional businesses attending, is scheduled for January 15, 2014 at 8:00am at the TTCC.**