

PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

October 1, 2024

Room 205

Attending: Larry Russo Roz Gallagher Barbara Kapi Jackee MacNamee Liz Landau Cheryl Ellison  
Mikell Germond Megan Foggitt

Chairman Roz Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously following a motion proposed by Roz and seconded by Barbara

9/11 Commemoration: The event went well, but a further discussion will ensue as to the timing of the event. Should it be held at the time of the first crash, or hold it after 5 p.m. to increase attendance.

Veteran's Day: Discussion to held off until our next meeting, 10/15<sup>th</sup>.

Halloween: Larry will meet with Steve Palermo from Public Works, tomorrow, 10/2, to finalize the details of Public Works involvement. Roz will walk the parade route to make sure all is safe and ready for the night's goblin parade. Jackee will make sure the route is decorated along the stretch of So. Elm and Center Streets. Mary Ellen Eckles has her costumed volunteers all lined up for the night too. Billy Beaumont has agreed to supply 35 pumpkins and assorted corn stalks to add to our decorations.

Wallingford Women's Committee will carve the pumpkins in time for 10/ 25, to be delivered by Park & Rec according to Liz Landau. Larry reported that Public Works has added additional power on the Webster Bank's side of So. Main. Wal Mart's candy donation will be picked tomorrow by Barbara and delivered to Shawn at Park & Rec so that his staff could add to the goodie bags. Jackee volunteered her daughter to possibly take charge of the teen volunteers.

An inventory of extension cords will be done shortly. Barbara will bring a supply of heavy duty cords just in case. A to Z rental wants \$542 to supply 15 tables, as Park & Rec is not able to be our supplier this year. A discussion ensued, with the general conclusion that \$542 was too much money for renting tables, rather the members agreed to research the cost and availability of purchasing of 15 tables from varied sources such as BJs or Amazon. Liz used these type of tables at Wallingford Center, stating they were sturdy and easy to store. A photo booth set up at a cost of \$500 is available. Roz made a motion to hire this booth for this date. Motion accepted by all in attendance. Larry will check with Holiday Cinema as to the possibility of donating popcorn, with a willingness to pay for half the quantity needed. Larry felt that ten bags should suffice. We have plenty of cups donated by McDonald's to get us through the night. Webster Bank will be approached for the loan of stations to keep everything orderly.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 10/23/24  
AT 1:04 PM AND RECEIVED BY  
Kristen Pango (SL) TOWN CLERK

Roz stressed that members and available volunteers report to the front of the Town Hall at 3 p.m. to start setting up. She also needs proof of insurance from our vendors by 11/15.

Seasons of Celebration: Scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup>, with no rain date, festivities are coming together nicely. Former Mayor Dickinson has graciously agreed to be a Tin Soldier once again. Current Mayor Cervoni will once again arrive at the gazebo area via Fire Dept. transportation. Mary Ellen Eckles will provide costume figures to entertain the children. Johnny Roz is all set with his duties. Choate will be contacted for the hot chocolate, provided it doesn't interfere with their meal supplier's contract. Mickey Wells and his roasted chestnut stand is set for 12/7. No Petting zoo is available at this time, due to the health problems of the LHHS Vo-ag coordinator. Luckily the gingerbread cookie decoration will still take place, with much enthusiasm on the part of LHHS. Jackee will contact the Wallingford Academy of Dance. Colin Bernard will provide a military truck to delight the little boys. Larry asked that the ice carver's area be roped off to prevent children from defacing the finished sculpture. Likewise the monuments are to be roped off to honor those residents that served in our wars. John Sullivan is to be the master of ceremony at the tree lighting event.

Roz stated that we members and any volunteers should be at the front of the Town Hall by 10 a.m.

Our next meeting will take place on October 15<sup>th</sup>, in room 205 again.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Kapi, secretary