

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

APRIL 23, 2007

6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Crystal Abers
James Boser
Mary Elizabeth Dunbar
Sid Emmons, Chairman
Sharon Fellows
Bruce Fredrickson
Maggie Fredrickson
Terry Martin
Laurie McCarthy
Thomas Moser
Deb Opferbeck
Ann Padlo
Phil Palen
Bob Schaumleffel
Dixon Stevens, Vice-Chairman
Steve Teachman, Vice-Chairman
Bill Watkins
Gail Watkins

OTHERS:

Pete Andrews, Christian Youth Corps
Tom Livak, EDP&T
Dennis Mahn
Rosemary Mahn
Ginger Moser
Cheryl O'Keefe, Co. Admin. Office

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the King Memorial Library located in Machias. Introductions were made by everyone in attendance.

Cheryl O'Keefe, from the County Administrator's office, announced the Chair appointments: Sid Emmons, Chairman; Steve Teachman 1st Vice-Chairman and Dixon Stevens 2nd Vice-Chair.

Chairman Emmons introduced Tom Livak, Director of Cattaraugus County Economic Development, Planning & Tourism. Mr. Livak talked about ways his department could help promote the bicentennial and how the Bicentennial Advisory Committee can interface with his department. He spoke of marketing, promoting and public relations efforts. His Department's biggest way in promotion efforts is the distribution of 165,000 copies of the Travel Guide. It is released in early January. He stated that it is heavily geared towards recreation; however they could do a page on heritage tourism. The publication has a pull out map of Cattaraugus County that not only includes roads and highways but various trails. A history trail (for example include museums, historical places, old churches/schools, old homes and historical societies) could also be included if the committee wanted this as part of the bicentennial celebration. Mr. Livak's office would need to receive this information by August of 2007 to be included in the 2008 Travel Guide. On the back of the map is a calendar of events throughout Cattaraugus County. This information would be due mid September 2007 if the committee wanted the bicentennial events/activities included. Another publication that is very popular is the theme brochures. He had several for the committee to review. These do very well at the rest areas located at Bemus Point and Allegany on the I-86. The committee could work with Mr. Livak's department to develop a historical one to include the museums and historical sites. His department also maintains an 800 info line that gives out information of events/activities in the County. Mr. Livak spoke of the possibility of a link on the County Website. Mr. Livak asked if the group would be focusing on celebrating with residents or focusing on bringing people into the county. Mr. Livak is in the process of researching the purchase of a mobile trailer for the purpose of promoting tourism as well as the bicentennial activities. The Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism have many tools to help us. The Department has a booth at the fairgrounds that they would be willing to share with the Bicentennial Committee. This would be a great opportunity for promoting the Bicentennial and recruiting volunteers for the various committees.

The list of Standing Committees with a brief description of each was distributed to each committee member. The proposed sub-committees also known as the Standing Committees are as follows:

- A) Public Relations Committee (advertising, publicity, hospitality);
- B) Fundraising Committee (county fund assistance and budgeting);
- C) Events Coordination Committee;
- D) Community Involvement Committee

Chairman Emmons explained that each Bicentennial Advisory Committee member is to be on a minimum of one of the Standing Committees; however, this doesn't mean the member has to chair the committee. Each Standing committee will recruit volunteers. The Standing Committees will report back their progress to the Advisory Committee at each Bicentennial Advisory Committee meeting. He explained he would take volunteers for each Standing Committee this meeting and the next meeting before assignments will be made.

Below is the list of those that volunteered for the Standing Committees.

A) Public Relations Committee (advertising, publicity, hospitality)

Pete Andrews – Volunteer
Jim Boser
Mary Elizabeth Dunbar
Sharon Fellows
Ginger Moser – Volunteer
Tom Moser
Deb Opferbeck

B) Fundraising Committee (County fund assistance and budgeting)

Ann Padlo
Steve Teachman

C) Events Coordination Committee

Terry Martin
Laurie McCarthy
Bob Schaumleffel

D) Community Involvement Committee

Crystal Abers
Pete Andrews – Volunteer
Bruce Fredrickson
Maggie Fredrickson
Dennis Mahn – Volunteer
Ann Padlo
Phil Palen
Bill Watkins
Gail Watkins

Doc Stevens distributed the "Voting on Possible Events/Projects Compiled Results" handout. This listed the top 19 events/projects as a result of the last meeting. Again, Chairman Emmons requested that each Bicentennial Advisory Committee member be on at least one, if not more of the Project Teams. If a member did not volunteer at this meeting they will have an opportunity to do so at the next meeting.

Project Teams: (similar suggestions were combined)

#1 Major Event – Parade, Fair Booth (both 2007 & 2008) historical events (log cutting, horse pulling)

Sharon Fellows
Laurie McCarthy

#2 Veterans Events Day – coordinate with event at Nursing Home in Machias – Color Guards, Dignitaries, salute to deceased veterans, period dress/costumes/outfits/uniforms

Ann Padlo
Phill Palen
John Sampson – volunteer

#3 & #9 Traveling Exhibit – Museum (to travel both county bldgs, museums, towns and villages)

Tom Moser
Kathy Lacy

#4 TOURS – County, Ellicottville, old churches, Old homes, historical societies, museums, historical sites

Mary Elizabeth Dunbar
Phil Palen
Gail Watkins
Bill Watkins

#5 Bicentennial Book (County & each Town Historian have some pages)

#11 County Research – Munson, piece of each Town history, old family genealogies, old homes, town historians, historical societies

#12 Old Postcards of County, Towns and Villages – for book, DC/DVD – fundraiser

Bruce Fredrickson
Maggie Fredrickson
Rosemary Mahn – Volunteer
Phil Palen
Bob Schaumleffel
Bill Watkins
Gail Watkins

#6 Old Chautauqua Trail (1808 – 1814)

Bruce Fredrickson
Maggie Fredrickson
Dennis Mahn – Volunteer
Rosemary Mahn – Volunteer
Carol Ruth – Volunteer

#7 State Plaque Commemorating Establishment of Cattaraugus County

#14 Special Session of the Legislature with Plaque Dedication

Crystal Abers
Phil Palen
Steve Teachman

#8 3/11/08 Ellicottville event

Jim Boser
Deb Opferbeck
Ann Padlo

#10 Circulation Float – BOCES Cabin, Ellicottville School

Doc Stevens will get more details and report back to committee at next meeting

#13 Seneca Museum, Falling Leaves Festival, Events with Senecas

Crystal Abers to send letter to SNI

#15 Essay & Poster Contest for students

#19 School Students – War of 1812 and Revolutionary War Soldiers

Sharon Follows to write letters to Cattaraugus County schools to canvas their interest
Kristinia Charlesworth – Volunteer

#16 Equestrian Events

Crystal Abers
Terry Martin

#18 County Quilt – Speakers at the Fair, Grange Day – it was suggested that each town could add a local patch to it and the finished quilt could be displayed in the County Center in Little Valley

Crystal Abers to send letters to quilters to canvas their interest

Ann Padlo is interested in a time capsule. It was suggested that the buried time capsule could be opened possibly at the “opening” event on March 11, 2008, display its contents and at the “closing” event bury another one. Chairman Emmons requested that Ms. Padlo bring the details of a time capsule back to the Advisory Committee.

Another suggestion was that if a group or organization wants to host an activity in conjunction with the Cattaraugus County Bicentennial celebration they should be allowed to do so. It should be approved by the Advisory Committee.

A question regarding liability at these events and activities was brought up. Crystal Abers indicated that they would fall under the County umbrella; however, she would look into this and report back at the next meeting.

Pete Andrews, Christian Youth Corps (CYC) located in Machias, spoke of the youth being available as volunteers as needed. He suggested ideas such as fundraising, serve at chicken barbecues. He also sees the tours as an opportunity for the youth to conduct the tours, teaching them County history as well as participating. Mr. Andrews also offered his services as a photographer at no cost. Another great resource for the Bicentennial Advisory Committee to utilize.

There was discussion regarding the bicentennial logo. Dixon Stevens made a motion that the proposed logo presented be accepted as the official Cattaraugus County Bicentennial logo, seconded by Steve Teachman. Accepted unanimously by voice vote.

A proposed schedule of Advisory Committee meetings for 2007 was distributed by Doc Stevens. Jim Boser made a motion, seconded by Bill Watkins, to accept the proposed meeting scheduled with the meeting to start promptly at 6:00 p.m. and end no later than 8:00 p.m. at various locations in the County.

The committee discussed and decided on the locations for the next 4 meetings:

May 7 – Little Valley County Center, Large Committee Room
May 21 – Franklinville Town Hall
June 4 – Olean County Building, Admin Conference Room
June 18 – Ellicottville Town Hall

If you have a location you would like to host a meeting, please contact Cheryl O’Keefe

It was noted by Phil Palen that the County was founded in 1808 and was only on paper but had to wait until there were 500 residents before they were established.

At 7:58 p.m. Terry Martin made a motion, seconded by Sharon Fellows to adjourn. Accepted unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl O’Keefe
Secretary to County Administrator