

Stow Minuteman Company – Quarterly Company Meeting March 5, 2022

Voting Members in Attendance:

Robert Stokes (Captain / President)
Ryan Hayward (Lieutenant / Vice President)
Jacob Shiller (Sgt. Adjutant)
Ann Gibson (Clothing Quartermaster)
Karen Walrath
Joanna Brench
Rob Caponi
Craig Schomp
Bob Lalli

Other Members and Guests in Attendance:

None

9:00 am – Technical Meeting Start

A few minutes of semi-related conversation took place between this time and start of meeting. Mostly related to Battle Road at the national park, and Tower Park.

9:13 am – Call to Order

The Captain arrives; 9 active voting members present (a quorum being 7 needed), the meeting was called to order.

Meeting minutes for prior meetings tabled to Annual Meeting.

9:14 am – Discussion of Events

There was a brief discussion about covid and what events are going to be on vs. off.

9:15 am – Trail March

We agreed that a full trail march will take place. We should immediately start to follow the checklist to make the arrangements. Bob Stokes will reach out to the previous organizers of the breakfast to see if they are available and willing to do it again - Ann Gibson volunteered to assist with the breakfast. A question was raised about having a tracking car (possibly in front, since the police car will be trailing) to transport marchers who need assistance.

9:23 am – Battle Road

Discussion of various Patriots Day weekend events. Battle Road is on, but unknown for Tower Park. Jason Russell House is cancelled for this year. Stow will plan to roll more cartridges and drill in preparation for the season.

9:27 am – Bedford Pole Capping

The event will be April 9th, Jacob needs to reply to the email to confirm, possibly 10-20 members attending, food is an unknown.

9:30 am – Other Events

Lexington Muster is on. Stow Springfest is an unknown. Memorial Day is likely to take place but event planners have not yet sent invites/information.

9:31 am – Inventory and Equipment Updates

An inventory of company items has been prepared by Ryan with Bob and Jeff Stokes. There are approximately six totes of company items, cast iron, candle craft items, a few miscellaneous large items, and canvas/tents/poles/stakes. Ryan has also tracked items in possession of company officers such as the loaner musket, crafts, flags, etc.

An inventory of company clothing has been prepared by Ryan with Ann Gibson. Non-authentic items have been deaccessioned and sold. \$200 was raised for new clothing – 3 items for \$60 and 1 for \$20.

Ryan has restored the company cast iron and it is ready for use in 2022.

Ryan has restored the company's two braziers, which are used for candles, pewter, and occasionally cooking.

9:34 am - Quartermaster Vacancy

We need a quartermaster in order to participate in Stow Springfest, Sturbridge Village, and Old Manse. Ryan is happy to manage Townsend to not create additional burden for the Quartermaster. Company agreed that the position needs to be filled by Bedford Pole Capping otherwise we will need to decline encampment events. Work can be shared among multiple persons.

9:36 am - Trailer Update

Now that inventory has been completed, we can work on getting a trailer. It will have plenty of room for existing company encampment gear and future additions. It may be reasonable to get a larger storage trailer/compartments and side door. The cost will drive the choice in upgrade. No plans to act on it on first pass.

9:41 am Clothing Coordinator Position

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that a new voting officers' position shall be created for this role.

Ryan motioned to create a clothing coordinator officers position, Bob Stokes seconds, voice vote motion passes. The Officers will review the bylaws, draft an amendment, present it to the company for approval, and vote on it at the next opportunity.

Ann Gibson volunteered to fill the role. Bob Stokes nominated Ann for the clothing coordinator. Ryan seconds, motion passes by voice vote. Ann is the clothing coordinator and will be confirmed by election once the position is created in the bylaws.

9:45 am – Insurance

We need a new insurance agency. Bob will reach out to Matt Brench to start the process. We need insurance for parades and events. The cost will probably increase.

9:52 am – Cartridge Rolling

We have enough powder for the season. Ryan proposed to have a rolling party. Craig Schomp volunteered to have it at his house. Ryan will coordinate a date.

9:56 am – Clothing Standards

Quick discussion on Battle Road clothing standards for future events. Wool clothing for the April event is the new requirement. Stow has no preference over wool or linen for their events. New clothing purchases should work for many events. If you want to participate in Battle Road, review the standards on the NPS website. There are probably enough of us who will be able to participate next year.

10:13 am – Motion to Adjourn

Ryan made the motion, Bob Stokes seconded. The motion passed.