

# *Stow Minutemen Company*



*Annual Meeting — January 21, 2023*

# *Agenda*

## **New Business:**

- Attendance (5 minutes)
- Approve Minutes from 2022 (Sent in Advance - 10 minutes)
- Vote in new recruits to active (voting) member status:
  - Any New Members?
- Vote in associate members and junior members:
  - Any New Members?
- Staff Officer reports: (30 minutes)
  - Sgt. Paymaster
  - Sgt. Quartermaster
  - Sgt. Armourer
  - Music Masters
  - Captain

# *Agenda (continued)*

## **New Business:**

- Review of Potential 2023 Season (Captain Stokes) (15 minutes)
- Election and Installation of Officers for 2023 (10 minutes)
  - Need vacancies filled for 2023
- 2023 Scholarship Committee Membership (10 minutes)
  - Any eligible members?
- Dues suspension for 2023 (10 minutes)
- Budget for 2023 season (Captain/Paymaster) (15 minutes)
- Anything We Missed? (5 minutes)
- Adjournment!

# *Attendance*

## **Active (35 voting):**

- Balzac Family (3)
- Brench, Bonnie (1)
- Matthew Brench + Family (2)
- Joanna Brench (1)
- Caponi, Rob (1)
- Dunnings Family (2)
- Ann Gibson (1)
- Hayward, Ryan (1)
- Lally, Bob (1)
- Lawson Family (2)
- Morrell Family(2)
- Needle Family (2)
- Richmond, Ron (1)
- Richmond, Nathaniel (1)
- Schomp Family (3)
- Sepe Family (2)
- Stokes , Bob (1)
- Stokes, Jeff (1)
- Walrath, David (1)
- Walrath, Rosa (1)
- Walrath, Mateo (1)
- Walrath, Karen (1)
- Schiller, Jacob (1)
- Van Ausdall, Gay (1)
- Weber, Lily (1)

### **Note:**

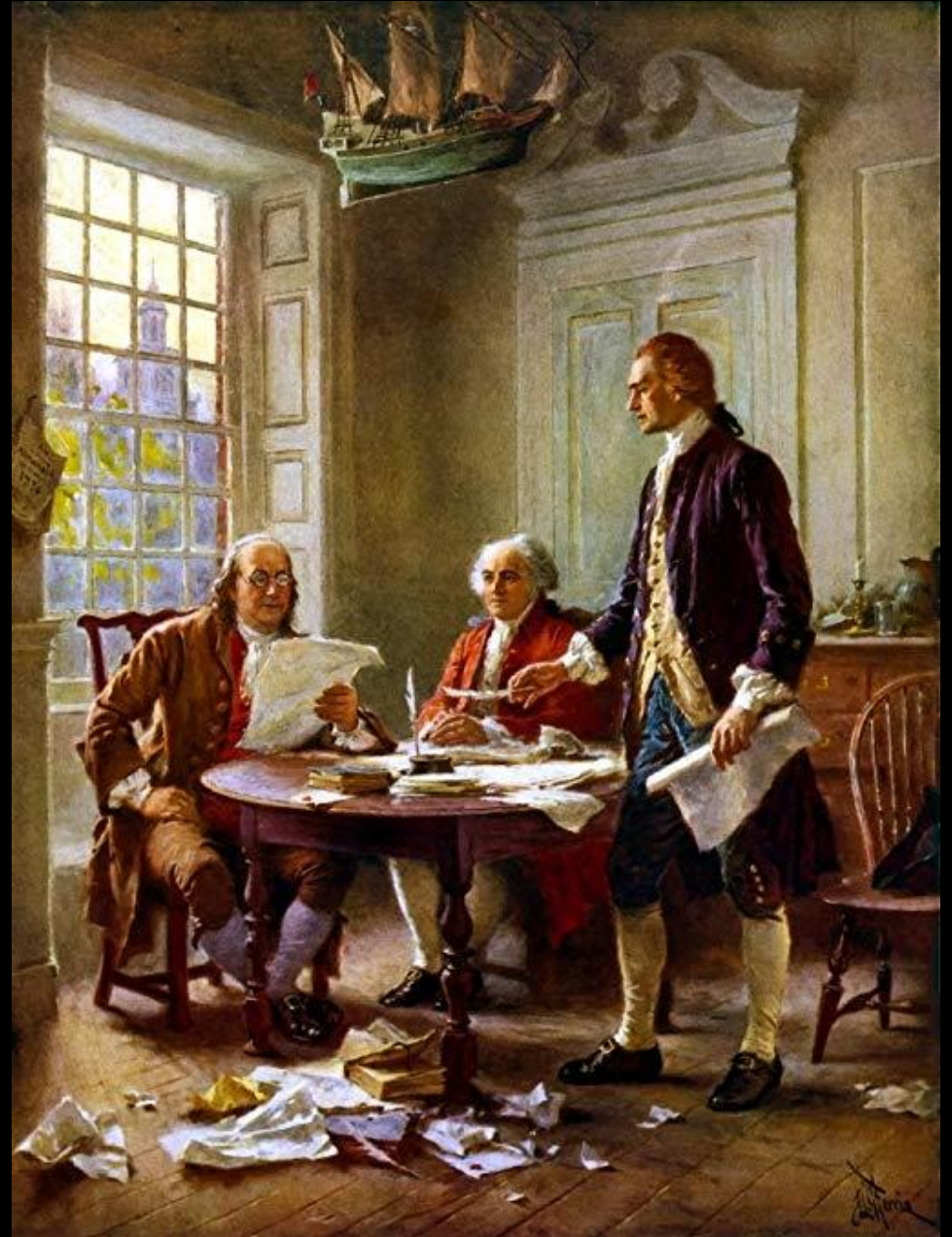
**Needed for quorum: 20% or 7 active members**



# *Minutes from 2022*

## **Vote to Approve:**

- Any questions, comments or corrections?
- Meeting minutes for January and March meetings.
- Minutes available on the website for review, along with a recording of the meeting.



# *Vote in New Members*

Active members must have participated in two company events and be approved by 2/3 vote of the membership.

## **New Recruits:**

- No new recruits for 2022 season
- Any Associate or junior members that need to be approved for voting privileges?





# *Officers Reports*

- Sgt. Paymaster's Report
  - Financial update
- Sgt. Armourer's Report
  - Safety update and supplies
- Sgt. Quartermaster's Report
  - Gear and Clothing
- Music Master's Report
  - Fife and Drum update
- Captain's Report
  - 2023 Outlook



# *Sergeant Paymasters Report — Matthew Brench*

## **2022 Profit & Loss**

Four parades     \$ 4,100.00  
    *Boyleston*  
    *Charlestown*  
    *Gaspee*  
    *Needham*

Income                \$ 4,100  
Spent                 \$ 4,671  
NET LOSS            \$ (571)

*Potential further expenses*

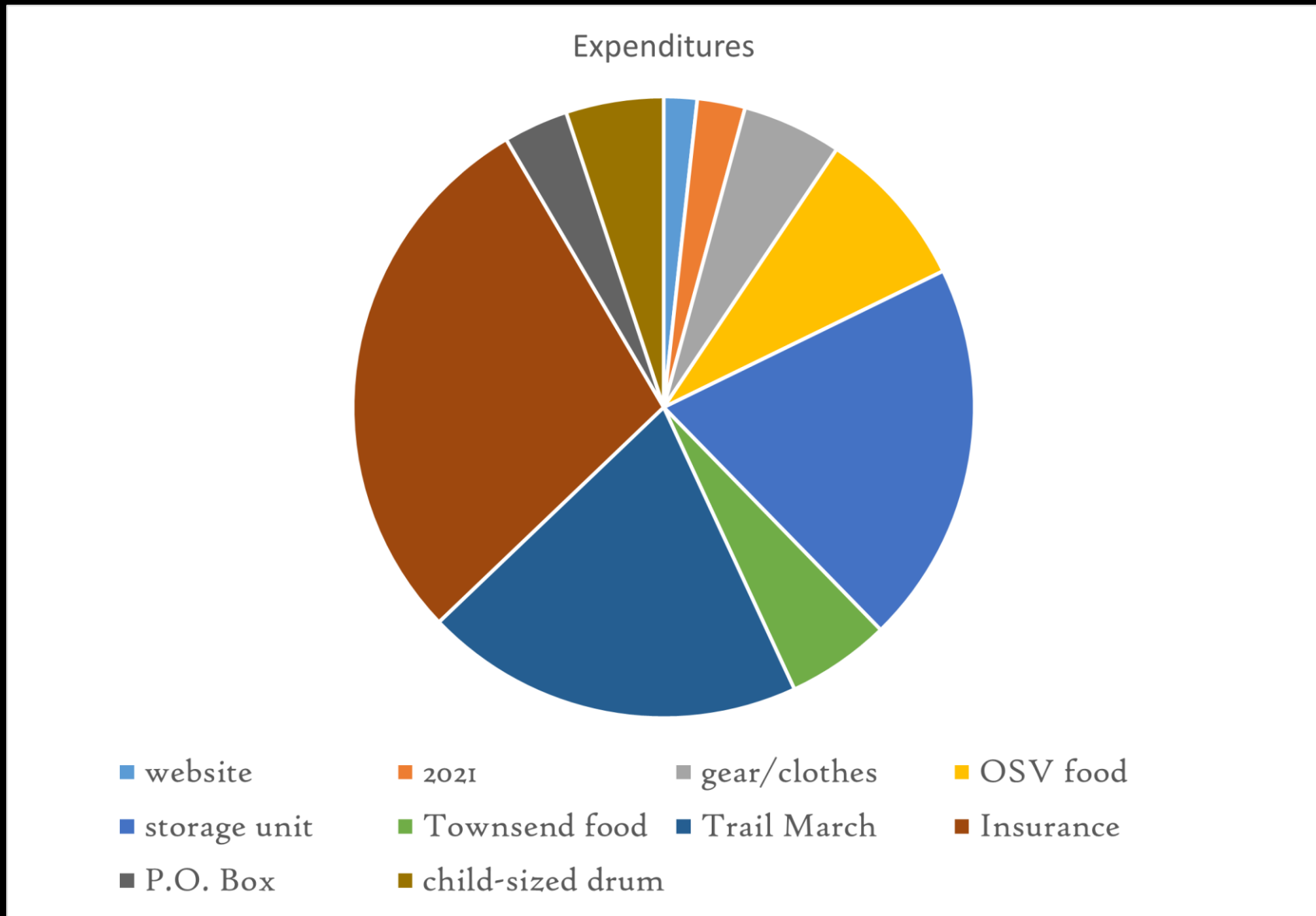
\* *Child-size drum replacement*

\* *Outstanding reimbursements?*

Website	\$ 85.10
2021 reimbursements	\$ 122.76
Gear/Clothes	\$ 254.39
OSV food	\$ 412.26
Townsend food	\$ 265.09
Storage Unit	\$ 981.00
Trail March	\$ 972.44
Insurance	\$ 1,411.96
P.O. Box	\$ 166.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,671.00



# *Sergeant Paymasters Report — Matthew Brench*



# *Sergeant Paymasters Report — Matthew Brench*

## **Points of Discussion or Concern**

- Payment method for storage unit (*chronic reimbursement*)
- Payment method for Webby (*switch to direct-pay, or switch provider*)
- At this rate we'll need another paid event within 20 years

# *Sergeant Armourers Report — Craig Schomp*

- Willing to serve again for the upcoming season.
- Musket display is a bit crowded. We might want to think of building a display rack (like the one shown at right).
- We will need black powder for the 2023 season. Need to have a rolling party, perhaps in February/March.
- We had some new recruits this year from Maine. We had one interested individual at OSV who was from Maynard.
- We have the loaner musket available and non-firing replicas to use.
- We might think about purchasing cleaning supplies to assist with musket cleaning, such as a steam cleaner.



# *Sergeant Quartermaster's Report— Open Position*





# *Sergeant Quartermaster's Report— Open Position*

## **Upcoming Season:**

- We need a new quartermaster to be responsible for the camp gear. This person will split duty with the clothing coordinator (Ann is coordinator for 2023 season)
- We completed an inventory of all our assets. We have this information to keep track of our goods. Next up, a trailer!
- Duties can be divided, as worked well for OSV and other events. This position can be more than one person.



*Sergeant Quartermaster's Report — Ann Gibson*

*Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*



# *Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*

The Stow MM Fifes & Drums are again holding weekly in-person lessons & practices at the Stow Community Center. Fife lessons via Zoom are still available when needed.

For **LESSONS**, we have:

- 1 advanced fifer (Helen),
- 1 beginner fife student (Bethany),
- 3 drum students (Ephraim & George Dunning, and William Brench), and
- a **new bass drummer** (Jonathan Daisy). Jonathan joined us shortly after the 2022 Stow SpringFest, and was already a talented (modern) bass drummer. AND he is able to practice with us weekly!

Potential **NEW RECRUITS**:

- Dec/Jan. last year's new students, Megan (fife) & Xavier (drum), a sister and brother who met us at the 2021 Bolton Fair, lasted for only a few weeks. Neither responded to any emails as to why they stopped coming.
- This past summer we had a talented visiting fife student, Sue, who has conflicts with Thursdays during most of the year, but we are staying in touch in case her situation ever changes.
- Just recently we were put in touch with fifer Miriam, a William Diamond graduate, who attends college with our fifer Lily. Miriam is interested in joining, and would be available during the summer months and hopefully at the two Fife & Drum Musters.



# *Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*

## **Drum Inventory:**

Out on loan, we have

- 1 adult-size snare drum (George Dunning)
- 1 youth-size snare drum (Ephraim Dunning)
- 1 adult-size bass drum (Jonathan Daisy)

We have on hand, ready for loan:

- 3 adult-size snare drums, good – Excellent condition
- 2 youth-size snare drums, 1 good, 1 modern/converted to rope
- 1 smaller size bass drum for a youth or small adult, good condition

For demonstrations:

- 1 refurbished, adult-size snare
- 1 youth-size modern snare.

Refurbished drum for purchase:

- At the Westbrook Muster this past August, I had the opportunity to purchase a reasonable quality, re-furbished, youth-size snare drum at an excellent price of \$350.
- It is far superior to the modern-converted youth drum the Company has, and if approved I will be happy to sell it to the Company.
- William Brench is using it at present.

# *Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*

## **Fife Inventory:**

Out on loan:

- 1 used Model F (Ann Gibson)

Ready for loan:

- 2 used Model F (from Linda)
- 1 plastic fife (lightly sanded with oval mouth hole, ideal for beginners)

Brand new:

- 4 plastic fifes (round hole, \$5 ea.)
- 3 Model F fifes (long chrome ferrules, \$140 ea.) (*May be commandeered for loan, only, if Model F fifes become unavailable.*)

For demonstrations:

- 3 used plastic fifes (round hole)
- 2 used maple wood fifes (new = \$30)
- 1 lightly used rosewood fife (*This was from Linda; it is a slightly more expensive fife and no longer available new, potentially valued at \$70. It should probably NOT be used for general demonstrations.*)

*Ensign Report—David Wahrath*

# *Captains Report — Bob Stokes*





# *Proposed Event List — 2023 Season*

**Green** - Paid Event

**Red** - Music Event

**Bold** - Important Event

## Proposed Official Company Events:

- Bedford Pole Capping ~ Sat. April 8th 10am (captain/adjutant)
- Tower Park ~ Sat. April 15<sup>th</sup> 2PM (lieutenant)
- **Stow Annual Trail March** ~ Mon. April 17th @ 4:30am (captain/adjutant)
- **Lexington Muster** ~ Sat. May 6<sup>th</sup> (music master)
- **Center School event** ~ TBD for this year. (A volunteer to look into the possibility)
- **Stow Springfest** ~ Sat. June 3rd. (captain/adjutant)
- Flag Placement at Lower Village and Hillside Cemeteries, Saturday, May 27th (Jeff N. and Volunteers)
- **Newton Veterans Parade** ~ Sunday, May 28th 2pm **(\$1000)** (captain/adjutant)
- **Boylston Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 29<sup>th</sup> 10am **(\$900)** (captain/adjutant)
- **Stow Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 29<sup>th</sup> 2pm (captain/adjutant)
- **Gaspee Days Parade** Saturday. June 10<sup>th</sup> **(\$1200)** (captain/adjutant)
- **Bunker Hill Parade** Sunday. June 11<sup>th</sup> **(\$1000)** (captain/adjutant)
- Boxboro Fifer's Day events ~ Sat. June 17th (captain/adjutant)
- **Needham Parade** ~ Tuesday, July 4th 9 AM **(\$1000)** (captain/adjutant)
- **Old Sturbridge Village Rebels and Redcoats Encampment** ~ Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, + 6<sup>th</sup> (adjutant)
- **Bolton Fair** ~ Saturday, Aug 12th (captain/adjutant) **(\$1200)**
- **Sudbury Colonial Faire and F&D Muster** ~ Saturday, Sept. 30th (music master)
- Old Manse ~ Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> (Columbus Day maybe?) (captain/adjutant)
- **OSV Christmas by Candlelight** - December weekend evening (date to be determined) (music master)
- **2024 Annual Company Meeting** ~ Sat. Jan 6th ,2024 (tentative) (captain/adjutant)

## *Other Reenacting Events Happening*

➤ Recommend we set the date for various checkpoint meetings throughout the year:

- Preseason – Early March (first week)
- Midseason – July (after July 4)
- Postseason – November (before the holidays)

We can send out a Doodle poll to see which dates work best. These meetings can be on a weekday if we do not want to take up our Saturdays.

➤ Just an FYI, these events are happening concurrently. While they may not be Stow Events, we should be aware of them for planning purposes:

- Meriam's Corner Exercise – Same weekend as Bedford Pole Capping – April 8
- Jason Russell House – Likely Sunday, April 16
- Red Horse Tavern – October 28
- First Flag Raising – January 1, 2024 in Somerville (with Charlestown MM)

**Note:** Most of the above are by invitation only so make sure, if you want to go, that you contact the event planners so you can be accounted for.

# *Election of Officers — 2023 Season*

<b>Officer position</b>	<b>Candidates</b>
Captain / President	Bob Stokes*
Lieutenant / Vice President	Ryan Hayward*
Sgt. Armourer / Safety Officer	Craig Schomp*
Sgt. Adjutant / Clerk	Jacob Schiller*
	Corp. Jeff Needle*
Sgt. Paymaster / Treasurer	Matt Brench
Sgt. Quartermaster	Open – Volunteer Needed
	Corp. Ann Gibson (clothing)*
Ensign	Dave Walrath*
Music Master	Bonnie Brench*
* = Candidate for Re-election	
Webmaster – Appointed Position	Jeff Stokes

# *Scholarship Committee*



## **Eligible Members:**

- No candidates this year.
- Future graduates in coming years.

## **Summary of Scholarship:**

- \$1,000 subject to confirmation by membership each year (depending on number of candidates, etc.)
- Candidates must have been active for the most recent 3 years, taking part in min. 4 events per year, including 2 paid.
- Applications due second Saturday after Trail March.
- Volunteers needed when applicants.



## *Dues Discussion*

**Do we waive dues for the 2023 season?**



# *Annual Budget — 2023 Season*

## **Income:**

- Dues: \$0
- Parades: \$5300
  - Newton: \$1000
  - Needham: \$1000
  - Boylston: \$900 (tentative?)
  - Bunker Hill: \$1000
  - Gaspee Days: \$1200
  - Bolton Fair: \$1200

**Total Budgeted Revenue: \$6300**

## **Important Note:**

This preliminary budget contains many ongoing one-time /year expenses (such as trailer). This is larger than normal and is subject to discussion by the membership.

## **Expenses:**

- Advertising: \$0
- Armoury / Black Powder: \$400
- Non-Musical Supplies: \$300 (gear)
  - Trailer Budget: \$3500
  - Storage Unit: \$2000
- Encampment Expenses: \$850 (food)
- Insurance: \$1450
- Internet (web site): \$300
- Musical Instruments: \$550
- "Other": \$200
  - \$200ish for PO Box
  - \$18.50 for Annual Report filing
- Scholarship: \$0
- Trail March: \$1700
  - Dee Bus: \$230
  - Port-o-Potties: \$250
  - Police Detail: \$500
  - Breakfast: \$250

**Total Budgeted Expenses: \$11,250**

**Income - Expenses: -\$4,950**



*Adjournment*

**HUZZAH!**

