

# *Stow Minutemen Company*



*Annual Meeting — January 13, 2024*

# *Agenda*

## **New Business:**

- Attendance (5 minutes)
- Approve Minutes from 2023 (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 2024 Season (Captain Stokes) (15 minutes)
- Election and Installation of Officers for 2024 (10 minutes)
  - Need vacancies filled for 2024
- 2024 Scholarship Committee Membership (10 minutes)
  - Any eligible members?
- Dues suspension for 2024 (10 minutes)
- Budget for 2024 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:**

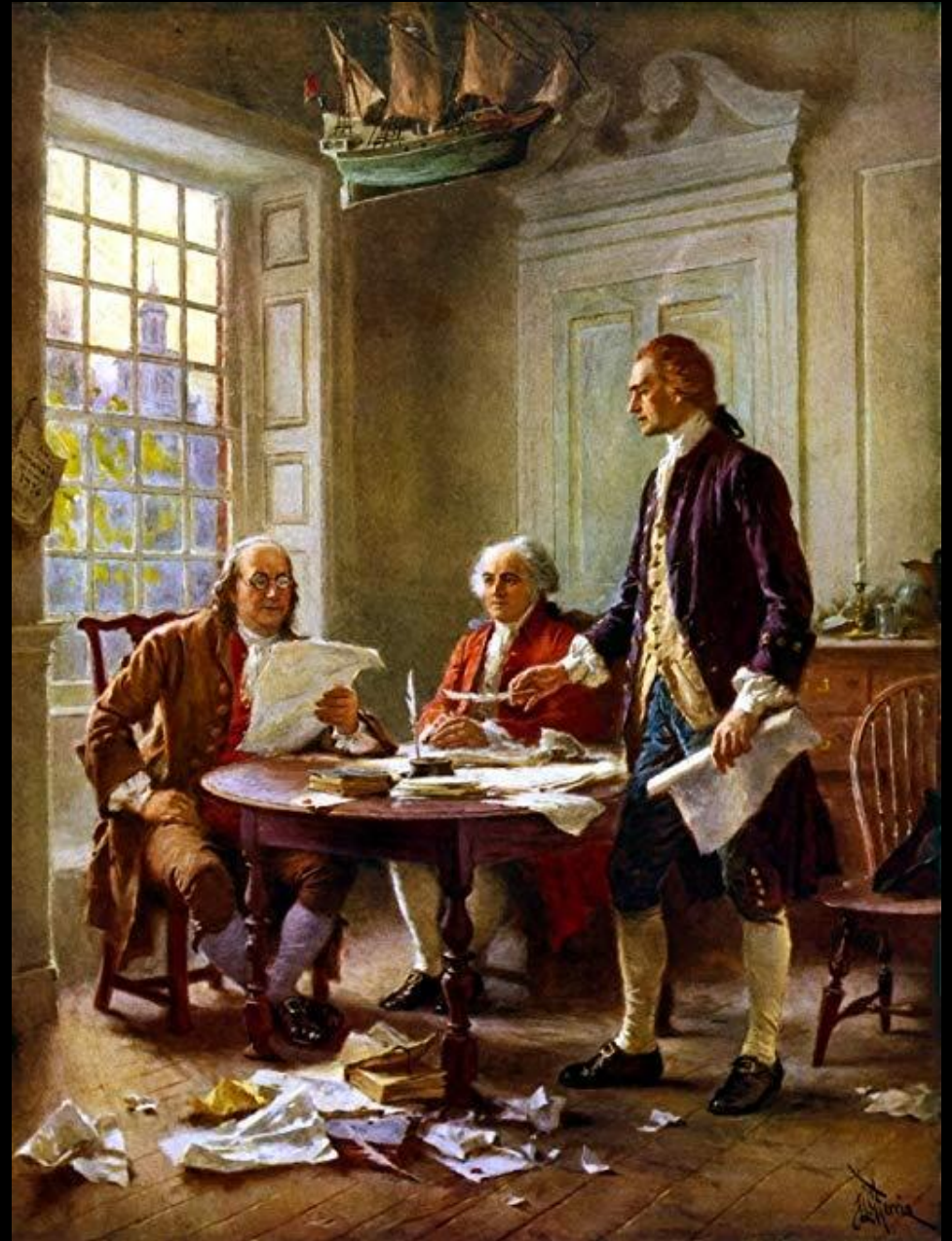
**Needed for quorum: 20% or 7 active members**



# *Minutes from 2023*

## **Vote to Approve:**

- Any questions, comments or corrections?
- Meeting minutes for January, May, and July meetings.
- Minutes available on the website for review, along with any recordings of the meeting (if available).



# *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:**

- Any new recruits for 2024 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*

## Non-Profit & Non-Loss

\$5,590 spent

Website	\$77.35
Gear/food	\$1,161.93
Music	\$275.00
Storage unit	\$981.00
Trail March	\$1,368.00
Insurance	\$1,550.72
P.O. Box	\$176.00

\$6,000 taken in

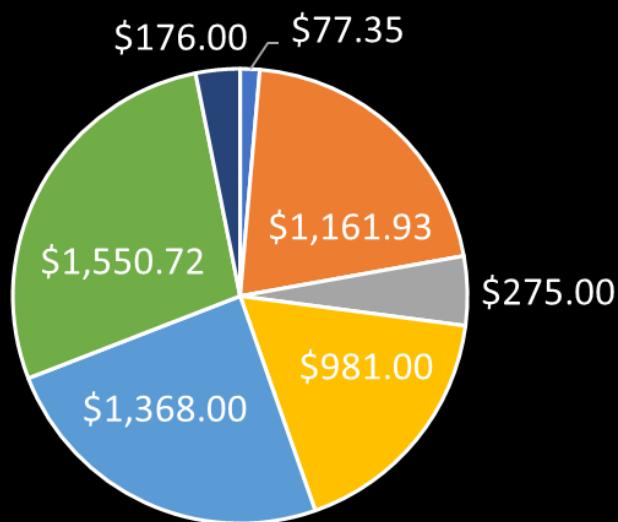
Bolton 2022	\$1,200.00
Gaspee	\$1,300.00
Boylston	\$1,200.00
Bunker Hill	\$1,100.00
Needham	\$1,200.00



# *Sergeant Paymasters Report — Matthew Brench*

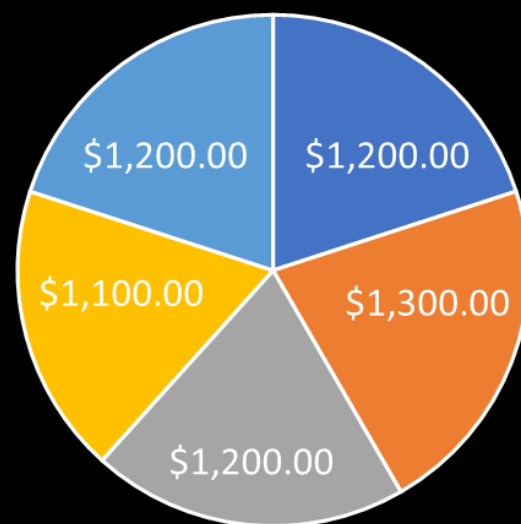
## Visualized

2023 Expenditures: \$5,590



■ website  
■ storage unit  
■ P.O. Box  
■ gear/food  
■ Trail March  
■ Music  
■ Insurance

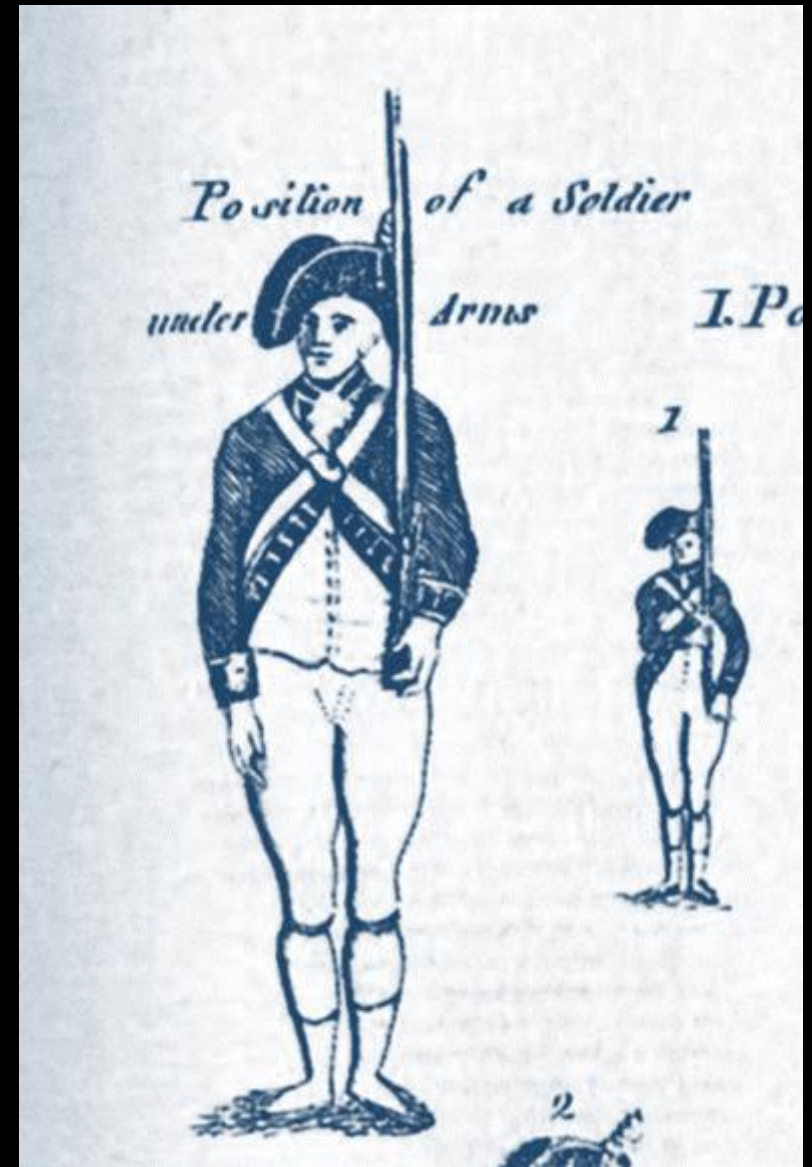
2023 Income: \$6,000



■ Bolton 2022  
■ Gaspee  
■ Boylston  
■ Bunker Hill  
■ Needham

# *Sergeant Armourers Report — Craig Schomp*

- Willing to serve again for the upcoming season.
- We have the loaner musket available and non-firing replicas to use.
- We will need black powder for the 2024 season. Need to have a rolling party, perhaps in February/March.
- The Lieutenant is working on a safety manual for the unit. This should be finished in time for the trail march. It does not reinvent the wheel and utilizes a lot of what other units have for info.
- Need to have drills throughout the year. Possible to have one during the rolling party, before OSV and perhaps in the fall.



# *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.
- We completed an inventory of all our assets. We have this information to keep track of our goods. Still on the list is the trailer!
- Duties can be divided, as worked well for OSV and other events. This position can be more than one person.



*Music Master's Report — Bonnie Brench*



# *Music Master's Report — Bonnie Brench*

We continue to hold weekly, in-person lessons and practices.

Our Fifes, ready for events:

Attends Weekly practices – Matt, Bonnie, Gay, Helen = 4 fifers

Available for some events – Lily, Becca = 2 fifers

Advanced Beginner – Bethany = 1 fifer

Our Snare/Bass Drums, ready for events:

Attends Weekly practices – Jeff, William, Ephraim, George = 4 snares

Available for most events – Joanna = 1 snare

BASS drum – Jonathan = 1 bass

Highlights:

Received donation of a used, adult snare drum; needing only minor repairs (\$275).

Stow TV made a F&D Christmas music recording with 7 of our musicians (14 Dec.).



# *Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*

## DRUM INVENTORY

Out on loan, we have:

- 1 adult size snare drum (George Dunning)
- 2 youth size snare drums (Ephraim Dunning & William Brench)
- 1 adult size bass drum (Jonathan Daisy)

We have on hand, ready for loan:

- 4 adult size snare drums, good to excellent condition (1 was newly acquired this year)
- 1 youth size snare drums, good condition
- 1 smaller size bass drum for a youth or small adult, good condition

For demonstrations:

- 1 refurbished, adult-size snare
- 2 youth size snares, 1 modern, 1 modern/converted to rope.

# *Music Master's Report— Bonnie Brench*

## FIFE INVENTORY

### Out on loan:

1 used Model F (Ann Gibson)

### Ready for loan:

2 used Model F fives

1 plastic fife (lightly sanded with oval mouth hole, ideal for beginners)

### Brand new, available for sale:

3 Model F fives (long chrome ferrules, \$140 ea.) (May be commandeered for loan, only, if Model F fives become unavailable.)

2 lightly used plastic fives (round hole, \$5 ea.)

### For demonstrations:

3 used plastic fives (round hole)

3 lightly used maple wood fives (new = \$30)

1 lightly used rosewood fife (no longer available new, potentially valued at \$70.

Not for general demonstrations.)

*Ensign Report—David Wahrath*



# *Captains Report — Bob Stokes*



# *Proposed Event List — 2024 Season*

**Green** - Paid Event

**Red** - Music Event

**Bold** - Important Event

## Proposed Official Company Events:

- Bedford Pole Capping ~ Sat. April 6th 10am (captain/adjutant)
- Jason Russell House ~ Sun. April 14<sup>th</sup>, 10AM (lieutenant)
- **Stow Annual Trail March** ~ Mon. April 15th @ 4:30am (captain/adjutant)
- **Lexington Muster** ~ Sat. May 4<sup>th</sup> (music master)
- Flag Placement at Lower Village and Hillside Cemeteries, Saturday, May 25th (Jeff N. and Volunteers)
- **Newton Veterans Parade** ~ Sunday, May 26th 2pm (**\$1000**) (captain/adjutant)
- **Boylston Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> 10am (**\$900**) (captain/adjutant)
- **Stow Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm (captain/adjutant)
- **Stow Springfest** ~ Sat. June 1st. (captain/adjutant)
- **Gaspee Days Parade** Saturday. June 8<sup>th</sup> (**\$1200**) (captain/adjutant)
- **Bunker Hill Parade** Sunday. June 16<sup>th</sup> (**\$1000**) (captain/adjutant)
- Boxboro Fifer's Day events ~ Sat. June 15th (captain/adjutant)
- **Needham Parade** ~ Thursday, July 4th 9 AM (**\$1000**) (captain/adjutant)
- **Old Sturbridge Village Rebels and Redcoats Encampment** ~ Aug 2nd, 3rd, + 4th (adjutant)
- **Bolton Fair** ~ Saturday, Aug 10th (captain/adjutant) (**\$1200**)
- **Sudbury Colonial Faire and F&D Muster** ~ Saturday, Sept. 28th (music master)
- **2024 Annual Company Meeting** ~ Sat. Jan 4th ,2025 (tentative) (captain/adjutant)

## *Other Reenacting Events Happening*

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

- Preseason – 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 6
- NPS also doing Barrett Farm Raid that day – April 6
- Jason Russell House – Sunday, April 14, Stow has been asked to participate.
- Charlestown/Danvers at Rebecca Nurse House – Prep. For War – May 4.

**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
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 2024 season?**



# *Annual Budget — 2024 Season*

## **Income:**

- Dues: \$0
- Parades: \$6800
  - Newton: \$1000
  - Needham: \$1000
  - Boylston: \$1200
  - Bunker Hill: \$1100
  - Gaspee Days: \$1300
  - Bolton Fair: \$1200

**Total Budgeted Revenue: \$6800**

## **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: \$250
- "Other": \$200
  - \$200ish for PO Box
  - \$18.50 for Annual Report filing
- Scholarship: \$0
- Trail March: \$1900
  - Dee Bus: \$375
  - Port-o-Potties: \$450
  - Police Detail: \$700
  - Breakfast: \$300

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

**Income - Expenses: -\$4,450**



*Adjournment*

**HUZZAH!**

