

## **Minutes - Stow Minutemen Annual Meeting – 1/14/2013**

Special thanks to Ryan Hayward for his excellent notes and first draft of the minutes!

**In attendance:** Bob Stokes (President), Ryan Hayward (Vice President), Jeff Needle (Treasurer), Linda Stokes (Sgt. Quartermaster), Phil Shoemaker (Sgt. Armourer), David Walrath (Ensign), Bonnie Brench (MusicMaster)

Amelia Rogers, Rick Lawson, Rob Caponi, Craig Shomp, Cara Shomp, Arch Owen, Deb Owen, Amelia Rogers, Matthew Brench, Becca Brench, and Christine Boutin

Noting that we have the required 1/5 quorum of members (32 total voting members), the meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM.

### **Vote in New Members to Active/Voting Status**

Full membership: Sally Barry

Associate Membership: Christine Boutin (Ari as youth member)

Vote was moved by Linda Stokes, seconded by Rick Lawson. Both unanimous.

### **Officer Reports:**

*Captain Bob Stokes:*

Bob Stokes noted a couple of changes in the 2012 Season. He changed the step-off time for the trail march to 4:30 AM and it seemed to work out much better. There is still additional tweaking, but nothing major. He indicated we have been re-invited back by Acton to participate in the bridge ceremony, similar to last year. He also noted we have an open invitation to the Old Manse, which he is proposing another Columbus Day weekend event. There was good turnout, both their traffic and NPS. If we wanted to do an overnight, that is an option. We would discuss for 2014.

*Sgt Paymaster Jeff Needle:*

Net **increase** of **\$3167** for 2012 (\$2967 after 2011 expenses are removed)

- Addition of \$1000 Bunker Hill parade – Huzzah Lt. Hayward!
- \$700 for Bolton Fair
- First Patriots profit of \$378.66 - Huzzah Lt. Hayward!
- Some costs are increasing
  - Dee Bus went from \$160 to \$175
  - Police Detail - must now pay union rates, so cost will be \$336 (\$84 per hour, minimum of 4 hours)
  - P. O. Box cost increased 32% from \$44 to \$58 annually

Current Bank Balance: \$10,975.52 (after all checks clear)

- Recommend putting some in a CD (\$5000-\$6500) – Jeff Needle to pursue rates

## 2013 budget:

### 2013 Anticipated Revenues:

- Dues: \$470 (13 families @\$30 + 4 individuals @\$20)
- Parades: \$3250
  - Newton: \$600
  - Needham: \$900
  - Boylston: \$750
  - Bunker Hill: \$1000
  - Potential: Bolton Fair (\$750-\$2000)

Total Budgeted Revenue: \$3720 (not including Bolton Fair)

### 2013 Budgeted Expenses:

- Advertising: \$100
- Black Powder: \$150
- Non-Musical Supplies: \$300 (gear)
- Encampment Expenses: \$900
- Insurance: \$500
- Internet (web site): \$71.40
- Music Instruction Stipend (Peter Sullivan): \$250
- Donation to Bolton Fair: \$200
- Musical Instruments: \$xxx (unknown at time of meeting)
- "Other": \$600
  - \$400 for 501(c)(3) filing
  - \$58 for PO Box
  - \$18.50 for Annual Report filing
- Scholarship: \$500 (one potential candidate)
- Trail March: \$900
  - Dee Bus: \$175
  - Port-o-Potties: \$250
  - Police Detail: \$336

Total Budgeted Expenses: \$4471.40

Income - Expenses: **\$751.40** (not including **Bolton Fair** and **instrument repair costs**)

Vote to accept the budget moved by Arch Owen, seconded by Rick Lawson. Vote was unanimous.

### *Sgt. Armourer Phil Shoemaker:*

Phil does not have any powder in his possession. He has announced his intent to retire after 15+ years as safety officer and Sgt. Armourer. The company presented Phil with a certificate of appreciation and a \$50 gift card to Nancy's Airfield Cafe to thank him for his many years of exemplary service! Three Huzzahs in thank you were given! Phil plans to have a rolling party in March to teach anyone interested how to make cartridges. Rick Lawson notes that he has 100 rounds in his possession and plans on picking up additional powder in February. He needs to consult KTP and his own source for cost. He will only keep a little bit (less than 2lbs.) at a time.

*Quartermaster Linda Stokes:*

Linda noted that we made three purchases last year. Two of the items were really useful and one was a flop. The tin pan and smaller copper bucket really add to easing aspects of camp life, including boiling water on the braziers, and dish washing. We have loads of clothing, including a large donation from the Maloney Family (5 bags). Some non-authentic items in the mix, but we do not plan to weed anything out just yet.

*Musicmaster Bonnie Brench:*

Small but dedicated group at practice. We are really hurting for drummers right now; we need experienced drummers for parades. Matthew and Bonnie teach fifers and Peter Sullivan teaches drummers. Bonnie suggests a stipend for Peter, to help pay for his travel. No opposition, Jeff to cut check and send to Bonnie for her to present to him.

It was noted that several drums need to be repaired as a maintenance issue. Drum Repair workshop scheduled for January 26 at Amelia's house, run by Jim McConduibh.

New music guidelines drafted. Discussion ensued briefly by the company as to ensure that it would not scare away potential new members. sician joining would be at the discretion of the Music Master. Bonnie replied that such a clause did exist in the document. Bonnie will forward for the members only section of the website.

**Vote on 2013 slate of officers:**

Bob Stokes – Captain / President  
Ryan Hayward - Lieutenant / Vice President  
Jeff Needle - Sgt. Paymaster / Treasurer  
Rick Lawson - Sgt. Armorer / Safety Officer  
Linda Stokes - Sgt. Quartermaster  
Katy Needle - Sgt. Adjutant / Clerk  
Bonnie Brench - Music Master  
Matthew Brench – Music Master  
David Walrath - Ensign  
Jeff Needle - Websmith

Vote was moved by Linda Stokes, seconded by Rick Lawson. Vote was unanimous.

**2012 Season Review:**

Bob Stokes provided a brief synopsis of our events for this year. Bunker Hill provided a good extra parade in the summer time, as well as adding to our coffers. It was our highest paying event. It is also one of the longest parades. Bob also noted the addition of the Bolton Fair which was OK, despite the rain, and a good local recruiting opportunity. Unofficially, we also added Old Manse, which was very well attended and received. Well done!

Ryan provided a brief summary of First Patriots 2012, including showing slides and reviewing that it provided us with \$378.66 this year, \$1,070.45 over the past three years. He indicated he is not sure

what the plans are for 2013 but is open to suggestions (to be saved for the coming schedule).

### **Recruiting Committee report:**

Arch Owen summarized the committee's progress. The group did a lot of recruiting without much success. He believes we need to focus in on more events in the Stow geographic area to get better success. This also includes hitting towns like Maynard, Hudson, Bolton and Lancaster. Craig noted that he placed flyers at the Maynard Rod and Gun club, but also did not get results. The recruiting committee (Bob Stokes, Rick Lawson, Ryan Hayward, Arch Owen, Craig Schomp, Cara Schomp, Jeff Needle) will reconvene for 2013 and meet soon to get started.

### **Scholarships:**

As anticipated, there were no scholarship applications received during the 2012 season.

### **2013 Event Calendar:**

- Bedford Pole Capping ~ Sat. April 6<sup>th</sup> 10am
- **Stow Annual Trail March** ~ Mon. April 15<sup>th</sup> 4:30am
- **Wm. Diamond Muster** ~ Sat. May 4<sup>th</sup>
- **Center School event ~ Date to be determined**
- **Stow Springfest** ~ Sat. May 18<sup>th</sup>
- **Newton Veterans Parade** ~ Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 2pm (**\$600**)
- Hartwell Tavern Encampment ~ Sat. May 25<sup>th</sup>
- Flag Placement at Lower Village and Hillside Cemeteries, Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Boylston Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> 10am (**\$750**)
- **Stow Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm
- Boxboro Fifer's Day events ~ Sat. June 15<sup>th</sup>
- **Bunker Hill Parade**, June 16<sup>th</sup> (**\$1000**)
- **Needham Parade** ~ Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 9 AM (**\$900**)
- **Old Sturbridge Village Rebels and Redcoats Encampment** ~ Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> , 3<sup>rd</sup> , 4<sup>th</sup>
- **Bolton Fair** ~ Aug 9<sup>th</sup> , 10<sup>th</sup> , and/or 11<sup>th</sup> (potential of **\$750 to \$2000**)
- **Sudbury Colonial Faire** ~ Sat. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>
- Old Manse – Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>
- **"First Patriots" Encampment** ~ (In Stow, date and details unknown)
- Maynard Christmas Parade ~ Sun. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>
- **OSV Christmas by Candlelight** - December weekend evening (date to be determined)
- **2014 Annual Company Meeting** ~ Sat. Jan 11<sup>th</sup>

Paid events in blue. Major music events in red. Important company events in bold.

MCV Junior workshop will be March 2.

Battle Road Heroes will no longer be an official Stow event. Amelia will be coordinating it and Stow

musicians are most welcome to participate.

First Patriots will be held in Stow this year, some time in the Fall. Ryan Hayward will coordinate, Stow resident members to assist with local permitting. Proposed Lower Village common location. Would like to extend invitations to various crafters – Linda Sheff has been making all sorts of contacts and drumming up all sorts of interest and this would be a great showcase.

Gaspee Days and Plymouth Parade participation were both recommended against.

Ryan noted that in May, he will be participating in an encampment in Townsend and welcomes Stow to participate.

**Other Business:**

Meal captain worked out well and will continue.

Discussion of more equitable ways to share gear toting. Suggestion of meeting at the residence of the quartermaster the Thursday prior to an encampment to split up the gear, as well as have a list of people responsible for bringing it back to Stow clean and ready to be stored. “Gear Captains” would be appointed to keep track of gear and ensure proper dispensation and return.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 PM. Moved by Linda Stokes, seconded by Rick, unanimous vote by everyone as they stampeded for the exits.