

Minutes - Stow Minutemen Annual Meeting – 1/15/11

In attendance: Rick Lawson (President), Jeff Needle (Treasurer), Linda Stokes, Amelia Rogers , Bob Stokes (Vice President), David Walrath, Craig Schomp, John Willoughby, Arch Owen, Rob Caponi, Ryan Hayward, Joanna Brench, Paul Siegel, Aparna Borrowes

Noting that we have far more than the required 1/5 quorum of members, the meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM.

Vote in New Members to Active/Voting Status

Full membership: Craig Schomp, Becca Brench, Carolyn Hastings and Family, Alexandra and Kermit Bennet

Associate membership: Surya Mani, Dan Kilkenny

Vote to approve new members moved by Linda Stokes, Seconded by Jeff Needle, vote was unanimous.

Discussion ensued of recruiting ideas (see later discussion in minutes).

Officer Reports:

Sgt Paymaster Jeff Needle: Positive cash flow of \$727.40 prior to addition of receipts received in 2011 for 2010. After all receipts and payments, we will have a negative cash flow of \$143.40. End of year cash balance was \$9379.18, which will drop to \$8508.48 after 2011 payouts of 2010 expenses have cleared.

501(c)(3) filing still pending. Fees have gone up to \$400. Will be filed by mid-February.

Quartermaster Linda Stokes: Only purchased one new pitcher for \$35.33. Rotisserie ordered. Well under 2010 budget of \$200.

Musicmaster Amelia Rogers: Practices going well, space at Hale Middle School is OK. Committed core attending regularly. Would be nice to see a larger group of regular attendees. Discussed recruiting from other local schools such as Imago, possibly have a Fife and Drum class with Mr. Moulthrop at Hale.

Sargeant Armourer Phil Shoemaker: Phil was not able to attend, but submitted this report to the Captain:

I am currently holding 0 premade cartridges and approximately 2 pounds of powder for the Company. In 2010 we went through at least 4 full pounds of powder. If re-elected I will procure additional powder and get setup for making the cartridges we need for the "Season".

Rick also reported that he has approximately 2 pounds of black powder and about a dozen cartridges.

Rick also mentioned a free black powder course in Wilmington.

Craig Schomp is a range officer at the Maynard Rod and Gun Club and could look into also having training there.

Rick reiterated that if anyone sees any unsafe behavior at any event, it is everyone's responsibility to bring it to the attention of someone in charge.

Suggestion of posting a recruiting poster at the Maynard Rod and Gun Club to attract new members.

2010 Season Review:

No problems come to mind. May was very busy, as usual. Trail March involved an unexpected "detour" due to the gates at WR Grace not being open. If a similar incident happens this year, we know the detour well and can handle it without delay.

Medford event was very successful and generated \$825 in donations. Costs were \$204.13 for food, \$29.98 for paper for programs and flyers, and \$239.03 for port-o-potties. We will also be sending a \$100 donation to Charlestown for their assistance and to defray their costs. Profit from event will be \$151.86.

Vote on 2011 slate of officers:

Thanks to Paul Siegel for his years as webmaster! Huzzah!

Thanks to Matthew Brench for serving as Adjutant for 2010 season.

Rick announced that 2011 will be his last year as captain. He may have to step down early if he takes a job that will conflict with his participation in a significant amount of our events. Everyone should expect to be recruited for Captain throughout 2011.

Rick moved that we consider Joanna Brench for Adjutant for 2011. Jeff seconded. Vote was unanimous, except Joanna sat there stunned and apparently unable to move, presumably due to the excitement and joy due to the honor of being considered.

Rick Lawson – Captain / President
Bob Stokes - Lieutenant / Vice President
Jeff Needle - Sgt. Paymaster / Treasurer
Phil Shoemaker - Sgt. Armorer / Safety Officer
Linda Stokes - Sgt. Quartermaster
Joanna Brench - Sgt. Adjutant / Clerk
Amelia Rogers - Sgt. Music Master
David Walrath - Ensign
John Willoughby - Websmith

Slate of officers above moved by Linda, seconded by Apar. Vote was unanimous.

2011 Calendar of Events:

Proposed 2011 Calendar

- James Melone Navy Retirement Ceremony – Sat. April 2nd 6pm
- Bedford Pole Capping ~ Sat. April 9th 10am
- Battle Road ~ Sat. April 16th 8am-4pm
- **Stow Annual Trail March** ~ Mon. April 18th @ 4:45am
- Battle Road Heroes ~ Sat. April 24th
- **Wm. Diamond Muster** ~ Sat. May 7th
- Dick Perkins Reunion event – Wed. May 11th 7pm
- **Center School event** ~ ????
- **Stow Springfest** ~ Sat. May 14th ???
- **Newton Veterans Parade** ~ Sun. May 22nd 2pm
- Hartwell Tavern Encampment ~ Sat. May 28th + Sun. May 29th TBD
- **Boylston Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 30th 10am
- **Stow Memorial Day Parade** ~ Mon. May 30th 2pm
- Boxboro Fifer's Day events ~ Sat. June 18th
- Harvard MA Independence Parade ~ Sat. July 2nd? **TENTATIVE**
- **Needham Parade** ~ Mon. July 4th AM
- Glovers Marblehead Encampment ~ July 9th & 10th
- Old Sturbridge Village Rebels and Redcoats Encampment ~ Aug. 5th, 6th, 7th
- **Drummers Call**, Old Sturbridge Village ~ Sat. Sept. 10th
- **Sudbury Colonial Faire and Muster** ~ Sat. Sept. 24th
- **"First Patriots" Medford Encampment** ~ Sept. 30th - Oct. 2nd
- Battle Road Heroes ~ Sat. Oct. 8th
- Sudbury Mm Tactical, the "Battle for Red Horse Tavern" ~ Sat. Oct. 29th
- Maynard Christmas Parade ~ Sun. Dec. 4th
- WAVM Telethon ~ Sat. Dec. 10th
- **2012 Annual Company Meeting** ~ Sat. Jan 14th 2012 (tentative)

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

MCV Junior workshop will be February 26.

Regular annual discussion about number of events and burnout from too many events. Regular annual decision to soldier on and concentrate on the paid events and town events.

Suggestion of a flyer for the trail march detailing rules and regulations for non-Colonial marchers, as well as an event list as a recruiting tool since the trail march is our most well attended event.

Suggestion to add a meeting on a Thursday night after Springfest for people interested in joining but not sure how to get involved. Also suggested that we have signup sheets at Springfest and the trail march for interested people to give us contact information to aid in recruiting.

Changes to the Hartwell event are likely due to cutbacks in ranger overtime budgets. Hartwell will likely not be an overnight event. Discussions with NPS to follow, with the suggestion that we be allowed to spend Saturday night, or possibly only do one day.

Stow MM Scholarship:

Scholarship committee for 2011 will consist of Rick Lawson, Linda Stokes, and Dave Walrath. Reminder to advertise scholarships to membership in January and April.

Other Business:

Voted to pay receipts for Linda Stokes for 2010 expenditures despite some missing receipts. Exact amounts can be verified. Moved by Jeff Needle, Seconded by Rick Lawson, vote was unanimous.

There was a discussion about displaying the Stow Musket. The library trustees have said it cannot be displayed in the library. A possibility is to display it on the third floor of the Town Hall, however it was the general sense of the attendees that it should be proudly displayed somewhere more prominent, and the library was an ideal location. Suggestion was made that a committee of members of the Stow Minutemen invite Jean McFederation and bring the matter to a meeting of the Stow Historical Commission to reopen discussion on using the library.

2011 Budget:

Proposed budget:

- Expected Income (Total: \$2600)
 - Dues: \$200
 - Parades: \$2100
 - Medford: \$300
- Expected Expenses (Total: ~~\$5100~~ \$5250)
 - Advertising: \$200
 - Company non-musical supplies: \$300
 - Encampment Expenses – e.g. food: \$1200
 - Insurance: \$500
 - Musical Instruments: \$100
 - Other: ~~\$600~~ \$750
 - Scholarship: ~~\$1500~~ \$1600
 - Trail March: \$700

Note: If proposed figures were amended, proposed figures are shown in strikethrough font, followed by amended figure. Otherwise, figures were voted in as presented.

David would like to buy one or two more straps for flags. Approved \$50, to be incorporated in non-musical supplies budget and controlled by Quartermaster Linda Stokes.

Proposed that we add \$150 to cover incidental costs for scholarships (commemorative mug, plaques) to "Other" expenses.

Linda moved the budget amendments, Arch seconded, voted unanimously.

Linda moved the amended budget, Arch seconded, voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.