

FREETOWN PARADE & FIREWORKS MEETING
Wednesday, May 29, 2019
Freetown Town Hall

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In Attendance: Pat Wilbur, Bob Adams, Bob Gregory, Sharon Rosen, Ashley Emery, Judy Gregory, Karen Facchiano, Ellen Lima

Absent: John Remedis, Linda Remedis, Jean Fox

Guests: Police Chief Carlton Abbott, Fire Chief Gary Silvia, representatives from participating organizations at the fireworks festival including St. Bernard, Friends of the Forest, The Collective, Ms. Fall River Scholarship, Lions, Girl Scouts, Firefighters Assoc. and Berkley Congregational.

Met at 6:30pm with Chief Abbott and Chief Silvia to discuss both events. Asked for and will be provided a cruiser detail to follow the Beaupre Electric bucket truck when the 80+ flags are installed Monday, June 10th on both sides of town. Asked for and given permission to place bunting on the police and fire stations.

Discussed the need for having a police presence at Hathaway Park during the day of the fireworks. Hoping Sgt. Scott Rose will be assigned once again to this job. Also, if the fireworks have to be rescheduled (rain date of July 13th), Chief Abbott talked about the strain on the police department having both events the same day; so agreed if there's need for the rain date, the parade would not be held that same day.

Requested the use of three light poles from Chief Silvia — 1 by the porta-jons, 1 by the 4-corners, and 1 in the area where the fireworks are set off. Asked for turtles too. Agreed all firetrucks would use Copicut for their line-up for the parade.

Following at 7:10, met with representatives of the organizations having booths at the fireworks festival. Told everyone that if they're dealing with food, they need to have their requirements taken care of, including obtaining a 1-day food handler's license from the Board of Health Dept.
*This needs to be done prior to June 17th, due to vacation time in that office.

Went over the food, drinks, games and costs of what each group will have the night of the fireworks.. Told everyone July 13th is the rain date. Went over the lay-out and spacing, timelines, and need for each group to clean their area. Discussed parking passes and agreed they worked well last year. Each group will be responsible for letting Judy know how many they need and then will be required to pick them up closer to the event. Agreed the fireworks will go off between 9:30 - 9:45. Once Judy and Dave (from American Thunder) have agreed upon the exact time (earlier in the evening), then all will be notified.

Met with the P&F committee starting at 7:50. Additional reminder given for completing on-line ethics training.

Coin drive Judy held at FES was successful with \$1046.86 raised in 4 days. Winning class presented with medals, will have their class name announced at the fireworks, and will also design the opening volley of the fireworks show.

Our sponsors this year have again been very generous. Waiting on 3 more checks.

Debby at End of the Road Tee's has the artwork for our order and will have our shirts ready for pick-up, no later than Friday, June 7th. Kennedy Vigers, winning designer, will be presented the first shirt and given her prize, the week of the 10th.

After discussion of RI Novelty no longer doing charity boxes (where we got our prizes for the turtle booth), voted to allow Ellen to spend \$150 on prizes. Any leftovers will be stored for next year.

Talked about the Strawberry Festival and work schedule. Will sell t-shirts, town decal stickers, and "old" maps.

Karen and Sharon will sell t-shirts at Junior's (the week after the Strawberry Festival) on a date to be determined.

The By-Pass Agreement with Stop & Shop and the town has been approved.

The judging booth (pop-up, table and banner) for the parade will be set up at the entrance of Outdoor Living. Linda will notify all parade participants.

Linda continues to work on the parade line-up. This is a big job.

Hoping Sgt. Rose will be able to work the day of the fireworks. Last year, he was such a great help! His schedule may not allow him to this year, but he offered suggestions. Chief Abbott said he will be in touch as to a police presence.

Discussed parking, signage, passes, etc.

Next meeting: Monday, June 10th at 4:00pm

Following meeting: Monday, June 24th at 4:00pm

Meeting adjourned: 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Gregory - Clerk