

FREETOWN PARADE & FIREWORKS MEETING
Monday, June 24, 2019
Freetown Town Hall

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

Absent: John Remedis

Minutes from previous meeting of 6/10/19 read and approved.

Linda gave latest update on the parade line-up. She went over each entry, explaining those who have decided to "pass" on taking part in this year's parade (such as the Historical Society and the rock band). Also, she told of some new "additions" (such as a float from a dance studio, some businesses with vehicles, etc.) who will be joining our line-up this year. This in an on-going job of calls, emails, and organizing.

Sharon and Craig will take over the lay-out of the parade line-up on the bypass. Jean, Karen and Ashley will be helping direct people for lining up. Craig, Mike, and Terri (Sharon's friend) will judge by Outdoor Living (where Bob A and his son Todd) will put a pop-up, with a "judging" banner to alert parade participants). Judy will contact Stop & Shop regarding moving of Jersey barriers, opening gates, etc. Plus, she'll contact the Highway Dept. about having some trash barrels placed on the bypass road.

Discussed the Strawberry Festival and how P&F did with sales. Fewer shirts sold than last year, but agreed the weather played a factor (not as many people this year).

Judy passed out parking passes to the various "vendors" who stopped by throughout the meeting.

Karen and Sharon will take over sales of the t-shirts on Wednesday, 6/26 at Junior's from 4-6pm. Remaining t-shirts will be sold the night of the fireworks.

Sgt. Scott Rose will have a reserve police officer at Hathaway on 7/3 from 10am on, to deal with parking, public, etc. Scott will come on duty at 5pm. He will also stake out the park on Mon. 7/1 am.

The construction equipment for the South Main St. bridge will unfortunately, still be in the far corner of the park for the fireworks. It will mean fewer cars will be able to park in that area the night of the fireworks.

Discussion about all which needs to be done next week. Mon 7/1: move turtle booth from town barn to the park, assemble turtle booth and stake out park. Wed 7/3: move pop-ups, car race track, tables and bins of lights to park and set up early; bypass road marked out. Wed 7/3pm: gear up for fireworks festival. 7/4 - parade

Ellen will have bottled water in coolers at Hathaway Park for parade participants.

The Tuesday Club asked about passing out recruitment flyers during the parade. P&F agreed to this, but agreed that Lola Furtado (Girl Scout Leader & Tuesday Club member) will have some of the Girl Scouts pass them out, while the other girls are passing out our mini-flags along the parade route.

Karen brought up that she had been asked "why the parade isn't held on the East Freetown side of town". Agreed would be nice to do, but unfortunately, it is not conducive for line-up and staging of the various units, there's not really a decent area for the parade to finish, plus the parade would be on a State route (County Road) which requires special permits, etc. The committee would certainly like to keep everyone happy, but the need for safety, along with dealing with the amount of people and vehicles in the parade, lends for it to be held in Assonet.

Next meeting: tbd

Meeting adjourned: 5:55pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Gregory - Clerk