

FREETOWN PARADE & FIREWORKS MEETING

Thursday, May 26, 2022 - 6:00pm
Community Room - Police Station

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

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Attended: Bob Adams, Pat Wilbur, Karen Facchiano, Judy Gregory, Bob Gregory, Ashley Emery, Ellen Lima Absent: John Remedis, Jean Fox, Linda Remedis

Minutes from previous meeting of 5/3/22 reviewed.

Thanks to Mike at Moonlight Design for donating his services in doing the lay-out of the sponsors on the back of this year's shirts, as well as fine-tuning our winning logo design for the front.

Deb at End of the Road Tees let Judy know that P&F's 425 t-shirts have come in and she'll start printing them to have ready by next week. This will give us time to pick them up, sort and separate, and have ready for our various orders (ie: 60 for CCA), as well as for selling at this year's Strawberry Festival.

Over 100+ flags were put up on both sides of town this past Monday - thanks to the HUGE HELP by Beaupre Electric's crew and their bucket truck. What took 2 plus hours for them to do, would (in the past) take P&F two full days of hard work. Some poles still require a ladder to access. Bob A, Bob, Todd A, and John put those flags up. Thanks also to the Police Dept for providing a cruiser to follow the truck for safety.

The bridge in Assonet was decorated with bunting and flags by Bob A and John R last Friday. This week - the bandstand has been decorated with flags and bunting, along with bunting placed at the Town Hall, FES, both libraries, both fire depts, the police dept, the highway dept., the senior center sign, and both Post Offices - totaling over 40 in all.

On Monday, Judy kicked off the Coin Drive at FES in 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades. The class raising the most money (in coins) by Friday, will receive medallions, help to design the opening volley of this year's fireworks display, and be given recognition at the Fireworks Festival when their class name is announced for winning.

Much discussion about "vendors" at the fireworks festival. After concerns we might not have enough "vendors" to take care of the crowds: so glad to report food, drinks and games will be available this year; and pleased to have the Knights of Columbus and United Church of Assonet joining us this year.

Also, discussed parking passes for "vendors", handicapped parking, etc for 7/3. Concerns brought up about hoping we have a police presence throughout the afternoon (along with the details which will be assigned that evening) due to the potential crowds.

Where we will not be holding our 4th of July parade, Judy came up with an idea to recognize the 3rd t-shirt design winner and the 4 (3rd grade) Essay Winners, who all would normally be "featured" in our parade. She has been in discussion with the 3rd grade teachers, FES's principal, and the fire and police chiefs to hold a mini-parade at FES on Tuesday, 6/21 at 10:30am. The five kids will ride in fire & police vehicles around the circle in front of the school.

John will ask Bob Klevecka to provide mini-flags for every student and staff to wave at the mini-parade on 6/21.

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Karen has permission and will be selling t-shirts in front of Junior's on Friday, 6/21 - 4 to 6.

Need to pick a date for presenting our t-shirt design winner with the "first" t-shirt, prize, etc.

Strawberry Festival will be 6/19 from 11-4. Hope P&F will have the same location (by the bandstand) to set up and sell t-shirts, town sticker(s), etc. Bob A will deliver a pop-up early that morning. Bob & Judy will deliver the tables, all t-shirts, seed money, stickers, etc. Those agreeing to help "work" the booth - Bob & Judy, John, Karen, Bob A, Todd A, and Jean. Judy will be in touch with State Reps Carole Fiola and Paul Schmid for them to "congratulate" our 2022 t-shirt winner the day of the Strawberry Festival.

Ashley will post on Facebook photos of flags and bunting - and include a short write-up to acknowledge Memorial Day.

Next meeting: Monday, 6/13 at 6:00pm - Community Room

Meeting adjourned: 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Gregory - clerk