

FREETOWN PARADE & FIREWORKS MEETING  
Thursday, April 14, 2022 - 6:00pm  
Town Hall

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
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Attended: Ashley Emery, Ellen Lima, John Remedis, Judy Gregory, Pat Wilbur, Bob Gregory, Linda Remedis, Karen Facchiano  
Absent: Bob Adams, Jean Fox  
Guests: Angela Vaudry, Amanda Farmer, Dave Suffredini

Minutes from previous meeting of 4/5/22 reviewed.

Dave Suffredini talked to the group about Freetown's fireworks show. Spoke about the long-term relationship P&F has had with American Thunder. Back in 2019, the committee had discussed however, about switching to Ocean State Pyro due to their much larger on-hand inventory of supplies. After no fireworks show for two years, P&F was concerned about the availability of product. Motion made, voted and approved to switch suppliers to Ocean State Pyro if we hold a fireworks festival in 2022.

Discussion about the time constraints to be able to organize a parade, along with the need for help in staging and holding a parade this year. Motion made, voted and approved to not host a parade in 2022.

Judy talked about the conversations between her and the police chief regarding P&F's events. Concerns about the possibility of not enough town police to staff for the fireworks and the parade due to multiple officers being approved for vacation leave on July 3rd-4th. This would require a supplement of (3) out-of-town officers for the fireworks, and (5) for the parade. P&F's hope is that not holding the parade would remove some pressure from our police department in acquiring additional help. Motion made, voted and approved to hold our fireworks on Sunday, July 3rd, 2022 (with a rain date of Saturday, July 9th, 2022). Judy will contact both the police and fire chiefs to let them know of P&F's plans.

Went over the list of (potential) sponsors and agreed who would be responsible for reaching out to them. Added/deleted some names to our working list of sponsors from 2019. Again, due to time constraints, sponsors will need to commit by May 9th to be included on our t-shirts.

Shared with the committee the flyer for the logo-design contest for the FES 3rd graders for this year. Judy will run the contest from April 25th to May 2nd. 1st place wins \$100 and gets their name on every t-shirt. A runner-up in each class will win \$25. Late May, Judy will run the Coin Drive contest for 1st, 2nd & 3rd grades. Class who raises the most money will design the opening volley of this year's fireworks.

The two Bob's need to inventory cars for our racing booth. Ellen will (again) be in charge of the prizes for the turtle races; and will order from RI Novelty and/or Oriental Trading.

Talked about "requests" for our flags and bunting to be up longer. Normally they go up the 2nd week of June and come down the 2nd week of July. Judy will ask Beaupre Electric to again help us with the manpower and bucket truck to place the 100 flags on both sides of town. P&F will also put up the bunting on both sides as well. Judy reminded everyone that the flags and

bunting show signs of fading after one month, so being up almost twice as long - we should be prepared for additional fading as well as damage by the wind. This may require for flags and/or bunting to be replaced sooner than normal.

Will need to "check in" on our new storage facility for all of our P&F supplies. Thanks to the Highway Department for our old storage unit we used for several years. Thanks too, to the Police Department for our new and improved storage unit by the old station.

Discussed what color to have for the 2022 t-shirt. Traditionally, we use a shade of blue with red for our staff. Suggestion had been made to maybe use neon green color worn by workers for safety. Sample chart was looked at. Group decided to pass on the neon color and decided to go with a sapphire blue for this year.

Next meeting: Thursday, 4/28 at 6pm - Community Room

Meeting adjourned: 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Gregory - clerk