

FREETOWN PARADE & FIREWORKS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 23, 2022 - 5:30pm
Community Room - Police Station

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

Guests: Chief Carlton Abbott, Amanda Farmer

Minutes of previous meeting 6/13/22 reviewed.

Chief Abbott passed out a 4-page list of parking and traffic management; police personnel and equipment; communications; and traffic patterns. Discussed at length with the Chief about the various concerns P&F has for the fireworks festival - crowd control, vendor parking, handicapped parking, pedestrian traffic, etc. Agreed communication of information important to both P&F and the Police. Judy requested the police department print up 50 parking passes for the fireworks festival to be placed in vendors' vehicles parked on the field at Hathaway Park. Also talked about the logistics of handicapped parking.

Went over the success of P&F at this year's Strawberry Festival. So glad the rain ended in time for the Tuesday Club. Many t-shirts were sold, along with town sticker(s), and the last of the Assonet "maps". Thanks to all those who helped set up, work the booth on sales, gave out info on P&F, and helped take down and put supplies away. Karen also suggested the possibility of next year ordering P&F sweatshirts.

Judy gave a re-cap of Tuesday's mini-parade at FES. Was a great success! Had the t-shirt winner in a police cruiser, the 4 essay winners in fire trucks, the retiring superintendent (Mr. Medeiros) in Bob A's Miata, the retiring FES school nurse (Ms. Jacobsen) in Ellen's VW, flags waved by the whole school, medallions passed out to our 7 parade honorees, tons of photos, plus a picture-perfect day. Thanks to our fire and police departments, as well as those P&F members who were available to help out. As some of the parents said after - this was an event their child will always remember.

Recapped t-shirt sales and inventory. Glad to report, the shirts have been selling like hotcakes. Judy reminded the committee of helping her by providing names and addresses for sponsors for when she sends out thank you letters in early July.

Time Line:

Fri 7/1 - 8am - get trailer, go to storage unit, load turtle booth, set up at Park

Sat 7/2 - 8am - stake Park for "vendors", back to storage unit, load rest of trailer

Sun 7/3 - 8am - unload trailer, set up pop-ups & tables, unload lights, and car track
(went over staffing of P&F's booths the night of 7/3)

Agreed next year to add eye hooks for bunting - bandstand, town hall, turtle booth, etc

Next meeting: Thursday, 6/30 at 5:30pm - Community Room

Meeting adjourned: 7:20pm

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Gregory - clerk