

**Memorial Day Committee
Sub Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 26, 2023
7:00pm via Zoom &
Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

Present: Austin Tanner, Joe Voccio, David Lee, Kyle Ambrose, Pam Nichols, Joanne Eiler, Courtney Crofts (7:11pm), and Sara Deshaies, Substitute Recording Secretary

Also Present: Chief Peppin

1. Call to Order – A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. Approve Minutes 6/22/2022 – D. Lee made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. J. Voccio seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 7-0-0.
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Discussion on Possible Split of Committee:
 - a) Fun Day for Recreation
 - b) Parade for Selectmen

A. Tanner stated that Rene Sangermano and Mike Gaudreau, of Parks & Recreation, had a time mix up and showed up at 5:00pm. They had some ideas about different events in mind. There was an idea about splitting the events into two separate events. J. Voccio stated they are not trying to undermine the existing event, but that Fun Day distracts from the meaning of the Day. K. Ambrose stated it's not a bad idea to split the events. Maybe mid-June would be good. J. Eiler stated the Committee should start with a goal. Publicity is a big part. P. Nichols stated splitting would affect attendance, although she understands the reasoning. D. Lee stated the Town should create a more robust event Memorial Day parade and ceremony with the local groups like AMVETS, boy scouts, etc. Then let the Parks & Recreation Department decide what/when Fun Day should be. J. Voccio stated that M. Gaudreau's position was to identify a date that makes sense. August is Fair season, July is 4th of July, June is graduations. C. Crofts stated she liked the idea of splitting Memorial Day from Fun Day. J. Voccio asked if the Committee would continue to meet on the nights of Board of Selectmen. A. Tanner said yes. D. Lee stated Melissa probably had a list of groups to reach out to for participation, support and publicity. Requests for participation should be earlier than later. J. Voccio stated the Veterans have been missing over the last few years. A. Tanner stated they could reach out to the Senior Center. D. Lee stated elements of the parade needs to be worked out first. And then who does the reaching out. Parade route needs to be planned out. Maybe work with the First Departments. Need a Marshal also. J. Voccio asked K. Ambrose if there were additional troopers needed would it be possible to address traffic. K. Ambrose said that should not be an issue. D. Lee asked if this Committee would focus on just the parade or both. A. Tanner said they should focus on both for now. J. Voccio stated if they went back to just coffee and light snacks, there would need a group to handle that. P. Nichols stated that at the Fair she used to ask the children what they would want

to see, and they always said floats. What if there was a contest for most patriotic float. J. Eiler stated local businesses could get involved as well. A. Tanner stated that even if the events are separated, they would still work together. J. Voccio stated that with the addition of floats may need to change the parade route. D. Lee speculated that maybe one of the local high school marching bands could participate. C. Crofts stated that when her daughter was marching, it wasn't at the same time as Brooklyn. D. Lee mentioned clowns for participation. P. Nichols stated maybe an Uncle Sam character instead of clowns.

5. Discussion on planning for 2023 – The Committee will meet with Parks and Recreation as much as possible to determine if Fun Day and Memorial Day should be separated or stay together.
6. Set Next Meeting Date – February 13th with Parks & Recreation. A. Tanner will ask R. Sangermano and M. Gaudreau to be put on the agenda.
7. Public Comment – None.
8. Adjournment – D. Lee made a motion to adjourn. J. Voccio seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Deshaies,
Substitute Recording Secretary