

Block Island 350 Committee Meeting
Town Hall, Old Town Road
Monday, September 27, 2010
3:30 p.m.

Present: Committee Members Co-Chair Fran Migliaccio, Co-Chair Connie LaRue, Beth Rousseau, Bruce Johnson, Martha Ball, Bill Wilson, George Dodge, Pam Gasner and Henry Peterson. Also present: Cheryle Gagnon, Carol Brown, Block Island Times Reporter Dan West and for the recording of minutes Millie McGinnes.

Call to Order

Ms. Migliaccio called the meeting to order a 3:36 p.m.

Approve Minutes of September 13, 2010

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 13, 2010 with changes. Mr. Dodge seconded the motion and it carried.

9 Ayes (Migliaccio, LaRue, Wilson, Rousseau, Johnson, Peterson, Ball, Dodge, Gasner)
0 Nays

Old Business

Co-Chairs updates:

eStationary

The estationary was displayed including preprinted note cards, blank note cards and letterhead. It was noted that it will be available for pickup in the Town Clerk's Office.

Jewelers

Ms. Migliaccio is in contact with local jewelers with regard to medallions and their own designed 350th anniversary wares;and with internet businesses with regard to lapel pins, refrigerator magnets, etc.

Events

The following events were discussed:

- The Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission conference April 30, 2011 which may include bike rides, hikes, tours, etc.
- Presentation by Don uBosquet including island wide comparative slides (old vs. new) and humor on July 21, 2011. BIRA may pay for the travel expenses and perhaps host a small cocktail party. Ms. Migliaccio will contact Smuggler's Cove to confirm the venue.
- Historic slide show and presentation by Bob Downie at Smugglers on July 13, 2011.
- Barbershop quartet at St. Andrews church on July 23, 2011.
- Possible visit by New York fire boat to offer free tours of the harbor and demonstrations of the equipment.
- Possible concert by the Wakefield Band performing a commissioned classical piece commemorating the 350 anniversary to be composed by Rick Sowash.

- Traditional fair in the school field in August with donkey rides, a wild animal exhibit and a carousel, among other attractions
- Founder's Day, June 18, 2011, the North Light will participate offering special tours.
- Historical Society slide show on June 16, 2011. They will add another slide presentation in August.

Merchandise,

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Peterson displayed totebags, hats, t-shirts and book bags with the 350 logo. It was determined that merchandise will be purchased to go on sale at the Historical Society Columbus Day weekend. It will also be sold during the Shoppers Stroll at the Craft Fair. Ms. Gasner suggested having donation forms available at the sales sites.

Website

Ms. Migliaccio stated that the new website is almost up and running. The site address is blockisland350.com. It was suggested that a link to the page be added to the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Council's websites.

Treasurers Report

Ms. Migliaccio noted that as of September 17, 2010 the committee had received \$10,750 in donations from 46 contributors. 26 of the 46 contributors are members, donating at the \$350 level.

Mr. Johnson suggested doing a mailing to organizations and associations soliciting them to join as 350 members. He will contact Dan Millea, commander of the American Legion post, to request their mailing list.

New Business: Subcommittee reports

Commemorative products

Cheryle Gagnon suggested producing a coffee table book from photographs of next year's events. A commemorative calendar was suggested. A video or documentary of island history was also mentioned.

The following items were discussed:

- Book bags – An order will be placed for the lighter color scheme.
- Mugs – 100 will be ordered.
- Bumper stickers – 1000 will be ordered. "Year of Celebration" was suggested to be included on a future bumper sticker.
- Glasses – More information will be collected re: prices etc.
- Flags – Fifty 350 logo flags, each on a staff, will be ordered. Smaller flags will be priced.
- Sweatshirts.
- License plates – small medallions to attach to license plates will be priced.
- Commemorative plates – more information will be gathered.

Bands and Music

Mr. Peterson stated that he was interested in putting together a concert on September 11, 2011 at the Sullivan House to benefit the Block Island Fire Department. He would like to hire a nationally known entertainer costing about \$25,000 - \$50,000, using a local band as an opener. It would be funded through ticket sales and sponsorship sales on t-shirts.

Events and Dates

Carol Brown, owner of the Beacon Hill tower house was present. She stated that she would be happy to open her house up for Beacon Hill Day scheduled for July 6, 2011. She had concerns about access: parking and access up the drive. Discussion ensued regarding the donation of a bus to use as a shuttle; donated taxi shuttle time; and clearing the field for parking.

Ms. Brown stated that she would be happy to offer help with writing and editing if any was needed.

Guest Speakers

Guest speakers were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Publicity

Ms. Migliaccio stated that she will talk with Fraser Lang of the Block Island Times about publicity.

Any other business to come before this assembly

There was no discussion.

Next meetings: Monday, October 11, 4:00 p.m., Town Hall
Monday, November 8, 4:00 p.m., Town Hall

It was noted that the next meeting will be held at Town Hall on October 18, 2010 at 4:00 p.m., not on Oct. 11th, as that is the Columbus Day holiday.

Adjourn

Ms. Migliaccio made a motion to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Ms. Rousseau seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Submitted: September 30, 2010
Approved: November 9, 2010