

1814 Board followed by Committee Meeting - Hybrid Meeting
ZOOM & In-Person

in the Second Floor Auditorium, Plattsburgh Public Library (PPL)
19 Oak Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
5:00pm – 6:40pm

Board Members Present:

Sharon Bell	zoom
Tom Donahue	in person
Mark DuBrey	in person
Russell Feher	in person
Vicki Giroux	zoom
Wendy Gilchrist	in person
Jim Guinness	in person
Tim Horn	zoom
Diane Kwarta	zoom
Judy Lefebvre	in person
Nicole Martino	in person
Chris Ransom	zoom
Mary Simmers	zoom

Board Members Not Present:

Forrest Edwards

Committee & Volunteers Present:

Stan Ransom	in person
Yvonne Smith	in person
Jacob Woodward	in person

Welcome

President, Tom Donahue called the meeting of the Board of Directors of 1814 Inc. to order at 5:00pm and welcomed everyone.

Agenda

Tom asked if anyone had any changes to the agenda.

Motion:

Judy Lefebvre moved to approve the agenda.

Tim Horn seconded.

There was no discussion.

All present approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Tom stated that the minutes of:

- January 23, 2024

were distributed by email. Revisions were emailed back to the Secretary who revised the minutes and emailed the revised minutes to the Board. The Board reviewed the revised minutes. Tom stated that the revised minutes were approved as distributed.

Battlefield Gateway

Judy Lefebvre reported on a video John Rock is having made by BMG Studio to publicize the Gateway project.

Events

The following are some upcoming events. We need to decide which events we might like to be involved in.

April 8	Solar Eclipse
April 20	Green UP
May 10	Golf Tournament
May 25	Lake City Running
?	Costume Workshop
?	History Lecture
June 15	Old Post Cemetery
June 13	Parks Alive
July 4	4th of July
July 6	Mayor's Cup
July 11	Parks Alive
Aug 8	Parks Alive
Sept 13-15	BOP
Oct 26	Trick or Treat
Dec 7	Miracle on Margaret Street & Holiday Parade

There is also the Farmers' Market, which opens in May, and the Dannemora parade.

Meeting with Commissioner of Social Services

Tom met with Commissioner Christine Peters from Social Services and Wendell Hughs. They approved \$5,000. for the 2024 Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Tom Donahue will sign some papers and we will receive \$5,000. (These funds are supposed to help children under the poverty line. Children's Village, Kids' Games, Cannonball Run fit this focus. We think they do not want to be recognized as a sponsor or recognized for their donation.)

Community Bank & Champlain National Bank

Tom Donahue reported that most of our funds in Champlain National Bank has been transferred to Community Bank. A small balance has been left temporarily in Champlain National Bank.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM)

Tom Donahue contacted Chris Sabick at LCMM. Mary Simmers has spoken with Chris Sabick about articles and speaking. One idea was relics in Lake Champlain. They might do an exhibit and they might do a history talk. Mary Simmers will send.

Poster Contest for Kids

Linda Masterson Ward is working on the poster contest for kids.

The contest is to end April 26. Then there is a vote.

Buttons might be ready mid-May.

Grants

Tom Donahue reported that grant applications/requests were submitted from:

- Stewarts
- Price Chopper (Golub)
- Adirondack Foundation

Linda Masterson Ward may be doing the grants for - probably early May from:

- Pomeroy
- McDonalds

Website

Tom submitted changes to Bruce Carlin to update our website. Please look at the website and let us know any needed changes. Please check to see if the Committee Chairs are correct.

Reenactors

Tom Donahue, Sharon Bell, Samantha Williams, and PJ met on Feb 6 about reenactors. Sharon said reenactors are concentrating on America 250 and most will plan to attend those events. We cannot use Wilcox dock this year. Sharon said the plan is to have demonstrations of everyday life at Kent Delord House. There will not be battle reenactments.

Golf Tournament

Tom Donahue said that Forrest is planning the golf tournament at The Barracks on May 10. Tom has made a poster. Tom says that we can have cannon salute to start off the tournament. There will be a need for volunteers. Diane Kwarta says that she cannot help on May 10 as she will be occupied with a Boy Scout Camporee.

Education for Schools

There was a meeting on Feb 14 with Clinton Co Historical Association and BSA to discuss partnering with 1814 BOP Commemoration on Education for the schools. Tom Donahue, Linda Masterson Ward, and CCHA staff met. They discussed the Coloring Book which they are taking to their Board. A 4th grade teacher is asking for a day on BOP for students. We are also planning a day at the Fair Grounds where we can invite 2-3 schools to attend like we did last year.

Old Soul/Tavern

Tom Donahue met Katie from Old Soul on Feb 20. She is willing to do the beer tent in 2024. Tom asked her if she would try to find a sponsor to pay for the tent, which cost us \$800. One

idea was that she would do the beer tent from about 4pm to about 8pm and then move over to the Old Soul on 124 Margaret Street. It would be decorated as “The Tavern.” One of the issues is that one can only get a temporary alcohol license for 4 hours. It would be “in place of” the Tavern we used to have in the bottom of Trinity Church. Ideas includes discounts for those with 1814 BOP buttons. Katie from Old Soul is also involved with the Plattsburgh Arts Coalition.

Poster Contest – Adults

Katie from Old Soul is also involved with the Plattsburgh Arts Coalition. She will discuss the ideas of an adult poster contest at the next meeting of the Plattsburgh Arts Coalition within the next two weeks. We could sell the winning poster. The artist could receive a % from the sales.

Town of Plattsburgh

Tom Donahue spoke with Micheal Cashman, Town of Plattsburgh Supervisor about more involvement with the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Michael suggested that they/we might do a 5K run in early August on the paths connected to the Battlefield Gateway. Sharon Bell is on that committee and will let us know.

Fundraising Effort - Underwriting/Sponsorship

We reviewed the Underwriting/Sponsorship materials from Nicole Martino and Mark Dubrey. Concerns were the issues of promises of inclusion in the magazine. Banners might be a better way to recognize donors. We think a reasonable size banner (3’ or 4’ by 18”) might cost \$26. Suggestion: do not include dates on the banners. Some donors might be willing to provide their own banner. We would need to provide size and specifications for donor supplied banners.

Motion:

Judy Lefebvre moved to remove from the Underwriting and Sponsorship Benefits/Opportunities inclusion in the magazine. Instead, we will consider banners for recognition.

Diane Kwarta seconded.

There was a discussion.

All present approved.

Blog

Nicole Martino has been working on a weekly blog.

Ideas

Donors/sponsors name on tents, connected to activity they which to support.

Plattsburgh Street Team

Nicole Martino described how the Plattsburgh Street Team is willing to help promote 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Discussion included concerns about possible negative comments. Plattsburgh Street Team has a good following. They have 1 million views per month from Albany, Vermont, Canada.

Nicole gave an example. She shared a post on our golf tournament with Plattsburgh Street Team. It reached 800 people. They would need a tent. We think a 10’ by 10’ tent would be reasonable.

Nicole Martino will get in writing our arrangement with the Plattsburgh Street Team. We will not pay for them. They will need a tent at the BOP Commemoration.

Motion:

Russell Fehr moved that we collaborate with the Plattsburgh Street Team.

Judy Lefebvre seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion.

All present voted to approve the motion to collaborate with the Plattsburgh Street Team.

Death

Steve Burgess, a 62-year-old reenactor died last week. Chris Ransom will send a sympathy card from us. Jim Guinness, Sharon Bell may have an address to provide to Chris.

Costume Workshop

Sharon Bell emailed Tom Donahue and Chris Ransom information on costumes to post on the website. Sharon can do a workshop in April or late May. She cannot do June or July, but mid-July might work.

Meeting with SUNY History Department Chair

Chris will contact Ryan Alexander, the Chair of the SUNY History Department to see if one of the SUNY History professors will be willing to give a lecture, date, and site where the lecture can be given. We had been considering April or May, but other times would also be good. Maybe tie into when Chris Sabick from Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) comes.

Also find out if he had been able to engage the Honor Society or any student in making a float and being in the parade or some type of involvement.

Trinity Church – Tea

Mary Simmers spoke with the ladies at Trinity Church about a tea. They are planning to do. A day needs to be decided.

Tents, Port a Potties and Washing Stations

Diane Kwarta has been researching the best options for tents, port a potties and washing stations. She says Morrisonville is the best price for port a potties except for a small company in the Malone area...but that company probably cannot handle our needs. Fosters does BOTH tents and port a potties. They are more expensive but maybe they would give a deal? Vicki mentioned Brandon Drapo. She will give the info to Diane. Diane will use the numbers we used last year EXCEPT Sharon Bell needs an additional handicapped port a potty and Kristin Collins may need another tent in 2024.

We cannot afford to purchase our own tents. In addition, there is the storage issue and erecting large tents is very difficult. We may purchase a few 10 X 10 pop up tents.

Military Bands

Tim Horn has been working on military bands.

US Navy Band NE wants to come. The new contact is Katie Chabot.

40th Army Band, Colchester, VT – cannot come this year but wants to next year.

Norwich, VT-Tim needs to contact.

Norwood-Tim needs to contact.

Fly over- Tim has investigated. He needs dates. We discussed and we suggest Saturday, before the parade, between 1:10 and 1:20pm.

Margaret Tims and James F. Macdonough

Tim Horn contacted Margaret Tims and is working on contacting her father, Jame F.

Macdonough. They plan to attend this year from NJ. James F. Macdonough would like to speak.

Tim Horn will contact him about being a speaker at Riverside Cemetery.

Magazine

Mary Simmers asked Tom Donahue to check on the price if the magazine was cut down to about 40 pages. Mary asked Russell to see if the bands he schedules can provide info and pictures.

Parade Theme & Contest (Ships, Boats, and Buggies)

Vicki Giroux report on progress on parade. She has invited musical groups and is waiting for their replies.

Saranac is having a parade for its 200th year anniversary two weeks following the BOP Commemoration event.

Entertainment

Russell Feher has been researching bands. There is a Tom Petty Tribute Band (Broken Hearted – Heartbreakers - Tom Petty Band) that he says is good. You need to book through their agent. The cost is \$2,500.to \$3,500. He is thinking of for The Strand. He was thinking of a 50s and 60s band for Trinity Park on Saturday and a jazz band for Sunday. Tom mentioned that the City might consider paying for a band on the steps of City Hall. Russell is thinking of Too Tall String Band for early Saturday. The Navy Band may also be available. Mary Simmer asked Russell to see if he could get photos, content, song clips from the bands he schedules. Russell has not been able to contact Jerrod Olsen at The Strand. Vicki suggested that he try email.

Macomb Ball

Wendy Gilchrist reported that she is working on the musicians for the Ball. Erin, the pianist, will line up the rest.

Social Media

Nicole Martino is working on our Social Media. Please send photos, video clips and stories about 1814 BOP to Nicole Martino. Reenactors and reenactments are very popular.

Pictures/Photos

Please send photos to Nicole Martino so she can use them for Social Media. Someone mentioned that Dennis Hulbert has many photos. In the past, he only asked that he be credited.

Old Post Cemetery

Judy Lefebvre is planning the summer Old Post Cemetery event for June 15. Judy said that 500 flyers were printed. She gave 200 to CCHA. They cost about 16 cents each. We would have to pay about \$48. - Judy asked CCHA for an invoice.

T-Shirts

Monument climb: about 237 climbed the monument at the 2023 BOP Com. How many T-Shirts? What size T-Shirts. Mary Simmers and Tim Horn discussed the T-Shirts. One idea was using the button. Another was the monument. No decisions were made.

Jacob Woodward

Jacob is a new member of our group. He is a history buff and did the 2023 BOP.

Yvonne Smith

Yvonne suggested donation containers at hairdressers, doctors' offices, etc.

Yvonne has recruited people to make sure there are chairs for people to sit for the concerts in Trinity Park

Adjournment:

Mark DuBrey moved to adjourn the meeting.

Wendy Gilchrist seconded.

No further discussion.

All present approved.

President adjourned the meeting at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Chris Ransom, Secretary, 1814 Commemoration Inc.

*February 29, 2024 & March 12, 2024 draft emailed to 1814 Commemoration Inc. Board.
March 23, 2024 all revisions made & minutes emailed to 1814 Commemoration Inc. Board & Committee.
Recorded as approved at the Meeting of the Board on*

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