

Battle of Plattsburgh (BOP) Committee
Meeting via ZOOM

Thursday, April 1, 2021
4:00 pm-4:52pm

Board Members Present:

Tom Donahue
Richard Frost
Wendy Gilchrist
Tim Horn
Judy Lefebvre
Lana Putnam
Chris Ransom
Mary Simmers
Samantha Williams

Board Members Not Present:

Forrest Edwards
Vicki Giroux
Jim Guinness
Charles Loscalzo
Emily Moosmann
PJ Miller
Linda Masterson Ward

Committee Members Present:

Bruce Moore
Vince Puliafico
Stan Ransom
Mark Sand

Committee Members Not Present:

Julie Baughn
Geri Favreau
Diane Kwarta
Kris Portal

Advisors Present:

Bruce Carlin

Advisors Not Present:

Kit Booth

Craig Russell
Gary Vancour

Welcome and Agenda

President, Tom Donahue called the meeting of the Battle of Plattsburgh to order at 4:00pm and welcomed everyone.

Tom mentioned that the agenda for the meeting will be updates. He said that we will return to meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 4pm. We will not meet on April 8 since it is only one week away. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 22 at 4pm by zoom.

He said that we have reserved the room in the Government Center beginning April 29 for in person, face-to-face meetings with appropriate COVID spacing.

Meeting with the Mayor of Plattsburgh

Tom contacted Skippy and Skippy has some information that will help us. Tom said that he might have Skippy make contacts with groups like bands and entertainment to see if they might be available.

Sponsorship

Tom reported that letters and packages of information are in the process of being delivered in person or by mail. Linda Ward could not attend this meeting as she is delivering packages. By Tuesday they have delivered or mailed over 350 packages to businesses. We will be contacting five times the number of businesses as we did in 2020. We have received our first donation of \$500. Mary Simmers said that Alice Sample needs her packages to deliver.

Cancellation

Tom mentioned that we hope to understand what type of commemoration we can provide by June 2021 and by the end of June will cancel activities if we need to.

Kent Delord House

Sam reported that the Kent Delord House Museum will have a soft opening June 22, 2021. They will provide tours by appointment only to control the numbers in the museum at any one time. Sam mentioned Fort Ticonderoga will have an exhibit which will be open 2021-2022. The exhibit includes a couple of uniforms from the War of 1812. Sam will be visiting the exhibit soon.

Sam says the Kent Delord House will have a number of demonstrations, without hands on participation. Boats will probably not be available this year.

Reenactors do not want to reenact a battle wearing masks due to safety issues with masks.

Sam said that Kent Delord and most historic sites are following CDC guidelines.

Court marshals could be possible.

Clearing the lot behind the Kent Delord is not resolved.

Valcour Brewing Company

Tom met with Meghan and staff at Valcour Brewing on March 19. Unfortunately, the owner could not attend. Meghan is following up. Some things have been confirmed. Valcour Brewing can provide for us on Thursday, Sept 9, 2021. We are planning activities from about 4pm to about 8pm. We can use the upstairs room and outside the building and the upstairs balcony. They will provide a 10% discount for those with buttons. They will make a special brew for the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Since the Oval Brewing is also doing a special brew there could be a competition between the brews. If they could do the brews before the Commemoration, we could use for pre commemoration events. Entertainment inside and outside will be planned. One idea was a live radio broadcast. Please send any ideas for entertainment to Tom.

Tents

Tom reported that they have obtained quotes from Fosters for tents. This will help with budgeting and we may be able to find sponsors who will sponsor the costs of the tents.

Poster Contest

Linda Ward contacted the New York State Art Teachers Association and they have agreed to run the poster contest this year. Linda Ward and Megan Charland will work with them. We will need to provide the prizes.

Entertainment Committee

Tom said that it is important to have an entertainment committee. Wendy Gilchrist is willing to be on this committee. She will work on arranging small, local bands and musicians. She has contacted Too Tall String Band, Towne Meeting, Bear Track and Stan Ransom. She says that \$500. for two hours for smaller bands could be used for budgeting purposes. Emily Moosmann might be on this committee. Maybe Skippy Duprey could help? Vicki Giroux has much experience with the bands that are in the parade.

Thursday night at Valcour Brewing would be from about 4pm to about 8pm. We might have music inside and/or outside?

Linda Ward contacted Dr. Laura Carbone who works with jazz and blues bands and Creative Vets from Nashville who use music to heal.

Nate Pultorak is a champion hammered dulcimer player.

Downtown Merchants

Lana continues to work with downtown merchants. She is working on products to sell and trying to find appropriate versions – for instance, wooden toys.

Village Café

Wendy Gilchrist asked Bruce Moore if they would like music at the Village Café? Bruce said probably yes, and he will ask at the Vestry meeting in April.

Guest Dinner

Tom said they decided against a planned guest dinner as we expect there will be few guests. If there are guests, we will bring them out to dinner.

Welcome Reception

Tom said that they requested that the Reception be sponsored by the Mayor. A decision has not been made.

Kids Games

Mary Simmers contacted John Fadden on who games were played by Native American around 1812. John Fadden supplied an excellent bibliography of books and articles. Chris Ransom will be working on the list.

Races

Mary Simmers spoke with her friend, Jerry who runs races. Her friend suggested Steve Peters who run races among other things. Steve used to work at the City Rec Department. He started Adirondack Coast Events. Steve also does grants. Several individuals present know Steve Peters or knew of him and agreed that we would benefit greatly if he can participate in some way on the Commemoration. Mary tried to Jim Guinness but so far has not been successful. want to find out if Jim Guinness has contacted Jack Barrette about the races.

History Talks

Rich needs to know the dates and times for the history talks. He has been assuming that they will be downtown, probably on Friday night. He will contact Geri Favreau about a history talk on the Aikin rifle. Rich said the speaker for this talk is from out of town. History talks upstairs in Trinity Church might be possible. Bruce Moore will need to think about and ask the Vestry. Attendance at the history talks might be 30 to 60 based on 2019 attendance. Tom said they have asked for space in City Hall, but the request has not been approved yet.

Old Post Cemetery Ceremony

Judy Lefebvre is planning on the ceremony at 4pm on Sunday

Pre-Commemoration Events

We would like to have some pre commemoration events. Maybe in July? They could include some brewery events. The Riverside Cemetery tour could be done ahead of the Commemoration. Mary Simmers contacted Anastassia Pratt (County Historian) about doing the tour of Riverside Cemetery. Anastassia suggested some people to contact including the City Historians, John Krueger, Matt Boire, Ann Bailey, ... Meghan Weeden was considering

contacting Matt Boire for a tour near Valcour Brewery. It was recommended to contact Don Wickman **first**.

Beekmantown Celebration

Mark Sands asked if someone was checking on tie ins with the Beekman celebration with Battle of Plattsburgh. Mary Simmers will contact Gary VanCour.

Boy Scouts

Mark Sands is connected with Troop 46 Boy Scouts. His Boy Scouts works with veterans. They may investigate setting up the table in Trinity Park with the stamps for the historic trail. They can help with Culver Hill and Wreathes Across America. Jennifer Warren works with Mark Sands. Another troop used to work with Jack Barrett on the races. Mark said that his troop has not worked with the Girl Scouts Troops.

Board and Committee Meetings

This Board and Committee will meet **together** twice a month by ZOOM on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 4pm.

We will **not** meet on April 8 since it is a week away.

The next meeting of the 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh Committee and Board will be Thursday, April 22 at 4pm.

We have a room reserved in the Government Center beginning April 29 for in person meetings. It will be spaced for COVID precautions.

Action Items

Bruce Moore

- Attend Vestry meeting on April 12 to see if church is willing to host events during Commemoration and what types of events they would like to host. Music? History talks?

Rich Frost

- Arrange history talks. Contact Geri Favreau about possible history talk – maybe on Thursday, near Valcour Brewing?

Tim Horn

- Contact Don Wickman about a tour of Riverside.

Tom Donahue

- Ask Linda Ward about packages of information for Alice Sample.
- Meet with Valcour Brewing staff and Meghan Weeden.
- Ask Valcour Brewing if they can do the special brew before the Commemoration ahead of time so it can be used for a pre-Commemoration event.
- Ask Meghan Weeden to see if the Adirondack Young Professionals will take on the Valcour Brewing activities.

- Obtain information on entertainment contacts from Skippy and see if Skippy can work on Entertainment Committee.
- Monitor school and college openings regarding volunteer opportunities.
- Test the PA system we have to see if it will work on Culver Hill.
- Ask John Rock if they would consider having the Crab Island Memorial on Friday instead of Saturday.

All Members

- Let Tom Donahue know if you can assist with follow up phone calls to potential sponsors.
- Give Tom Donahue any request for information on entertainment or any information that you think Skippy might have. Tom will be our contact to Skippy.
- Let Tom know any ideas you have for Entertainment at Valcour Brewing.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:52pm

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Ransom, Secretary

Revised April 3, 2021 7am

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