

1814 Board

Meeting via ZOOM

Friday, February 11, 2021

4:02 pm-5:48 pm

Board Members Present:

Tom Donahue
Forrest Edwards
Richard Frost
Wendy Gilchrist
Vicki Giroux
Jim Guinness
Tim Horn
Judy Lefebvre
Charles Loscalzo
Emily Moosmann
Lana Putnam
Chris Ransom
Mary Simmers
Linda Masterson Ward

Board Members Not Present:

PJ Miller
Samantha Williams

Advisors Present:

Bruce Carlin
John Rock

Welcome and Agenda

President, Tom Donahue called the meeting of the Board of Directors of 1814 Inc. to order at 4:03pm, welcomed everyone including John Rock. John introduced himself. He represents Crab Island and on behalf of American Legion.

Tom presented the agenda for the meeting and mentioned that there were additions to the agenda which he will mention as he goes along.

Minutes

Tom called for approval of the minutes from the January 28, 2021 meeting of the 1814 Board. Everyone present voted to approve the minutes from Jan 28, 2021 (14 yes votes).

Treasurer's Report

Forrest gave a Treasurer's report.

We received from Nov 1 – Feb 11 a \$100. contribution from a member of the public.

Forrest filed tax forms. Since we took in less than \$2500. we were exempt from the filing fee.

Insurance will be \$143.25 per month. It covers general liability for all 1814 BOP activities and insurance for directors and officers and cyber insurance to protect our online reputation.

Funds in our account are now \$3,675.24. This represents the bulk of our assets currently.

Mary Simmers moved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Judy Lefebvre seconded

All present approved.

Chamber Membership

Tom Donahue mentioned some of the benefits of membership in the Chamber. Membership will be \$237. per year. Vicki Gioux mentioned that the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration Committee has been a member for many years and found it beneficial. There was agreement on the benefits.

Judy Lefebvre moved to have the 1814 Commemoration Inc. join the Chamber at the cost of \$237. per year.

Vicki Giroux seconded.

All present approved.

Meeting with the Mayor of Plattsburgh

Tom reported that he will not be able to meet with the Mayor until late February. He said that Skippy's job is now Recreation Leader. The position of Scot Matthew, Skippy's previous supervisor is planned to be replaced and that individual will be Skippy's supervisor.

Tom asked that we email him any questions which he should ask the Mayor.

Rich Frost mentioned in-kind services of the city such as security and maintenance.

Judy Ward mentioned the request to hold the ceremony at the Old Post Cemetery as it is on City property. In the past Judy made the contact with the Mayor and the Council. One year the Council approved and the next year the Mayor approved as there had been no changes in the ceremony. Tom will talk with the Mayor about the Old Post Cemetery ceremony. Judy will follow up. Linda Ward mentioned that the Common Council is now meeting twice a month and one needs to get on the calendar for a Council meeting. Linda has a list of in-kind services that the City has provided to the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. She suggested that we could ask Skippy to review to make sure we have not missed anything. She recommended that we sit with the DPW (Department of Public Works) to go over our needs.

Questions for Mayor from last meeting:

- Contact with city for Commemoration
- In Kind help from city for Commemoration
- Funds from city for Commemoration
- Affiliation of the 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh Committee with the city
- Funds for reenactors

Videos

Tom stated that we want to produce the recordings of the costume making by PJ Miller and Sharon Bell and the dance instruction by Wendy Gilchrist. Our priorities right now are raising funds to pay for the Commemoration. In the interim PJ, Sharon and Wendy can plan the recordings.

Schedule & Activities

Vicki, Mary, Chris, Linda, and Rich have been working on the Commemoration schedule. Thanks to everyone's work on prioritizing activities we have a list of the top priorities in order of priority:

1. Reenactments and Encampment	14
2. Memorial Services	12
3. Kids' games	10
4. Parade	9
5. History talks	9
6. Macomb Ball	7
7. Entertainment/Concerts	7
8. Old Time Village Market	7
9. Old Base/Museums	7
10. Tours/MAC MON, City Hall, etc.	6
11. Fireworks	6
12. Education	6

Tom and Chris will email out the draft schedules and request input especially about the activities which you are working on and how the activities will fit on the day and time and any conflicts.

Rich Frost mentioned that Megan Weeden he discussed using Valcour Brewery for a special event (like the Tavern) on Saturday night or afternoon. The area outside Valcour Brewery could also be used. Saturday may not be the best day so Rich will find out if other days might be possible – maybe Wednesday or Sunday or? Megan would need to know relatively soon if we would like to reserve Valcour Brewery. She would need an 1814 BOP committee liaison and volunteers. We think there would be no charge by Valcour Brewery. Wendy Gilchrist plans to check the acoustics of the upstairs rooms at Valcour. Wendy says the Rotunda might be the best place for the Ball, but she will look at upstairs at Valcour.

Tom will also send out a request to the Board to vote on whether we should have activities at Valcour Brewing Company and which day and time would be best.

Bruce Carlin recommended the use of Google Docs to share and revise the schedule.

Mary Simmers mentioned the ceremonies. Tom said what we have portable sound system that we can use. Riverside Cemetery is tentatively planned for 4pm or 5pm on Thursday.

John Rock mentioned the ceremony at Crab Island with wreath laying is planned for 11am on Saturday. Boats are limited. He said the ceremony should now be able to be seen from the new park. John says the cost is about \$100. to \$125. This covers the wreathes and 1- flags.

Judy said that the day of the Old Post Ceremony is flexible, but she will need a day and time so that she can make all the arrangements.

There was a much discussion on the pros and cons of keeping all the commemoration downtown, splitting downtown and the Base including Valcour, the Oval, etc.

Valcour Brewery might attract a younger crowd. Emily Moosmann mentioned that we could have a corn hole/bean bag toss outside. There could be concerts inside or outside Valcour Brewery.

The reenactors' court martial or dance instructions might work well upstairs at Valcour.

Fireworks could be held on Sunday on the Base as part of a grand finale.

Tim Horn has been planning the Riverside ceremony on Thursday about 4pm or 5pm.

Linda mentioned that having all or most ceremonies on one day may be too much. In the past attendance decreased from the beginning of the day to the end of the day.

Benjamin Pomerance is tentatively planning a Harborside, BOP themed concert on Saturday night, September 11.

Buttons

Rich mentioned that we need to consider how the buttons would be used: souvenirs or to make money. What will the buttons provide?

Macomb Ball, Dancing and Music

Wendy will consider the best site for the Ball. The cost is about \$1,000 which includes about \$450. for a sound person. She feels that the Harborside Concert on the night of Saturday, Sept 11 will be a conflict with the Ball. She is thinking about Town Hall, Too Tall String Band and Stan Ransom for period music. She is working on dancing lesson ideas.

Historical Talks

Rich Frost said that he could put historical talks into the slots that he is given. He has one speaker confirmed and requests out for two others. He is still considering that the speakers may be speaking in person or may be speaking "online", remotely. He is considering 2-3 talks at 20 minutes each or 12 talks at 30 minutes each.

Old Post Cemetery

Judy Lefebvre would like to have a schedule so she could see where to schedule the Old Post Cemetery. Might do something with reenactors and maybe with the museums.

Volunteers

Tim Horn will contact Diane Kwarta on volunteer activities.

Promotional Items

Lana Putnam mentioned promotional items that are possible. She has contacted Jolly, Loreman and Finney's. She will ask about lead time. She mentioned hand sanitizer. Tom mentioned we should provide hand sanitizer at all events.

McDonough Impersonator

Linda mentioned the McDonough Impersonator that Benjamin Pomerance recommended.

Sponsorship/Fundraising

Linda, Tom, and Bruce are working on letters and packages to take to potential sponsors. If anyone has connections to any businesses, please contact Tom and Linda.

Mall Display

Linda is working on future displays and promotion at the mall with Emily Moosmann and Charles Loscalzo.

Board Size

Charles Loscalzo brought forward the idea of decreasing the size of the Board to 15. The current 16th Board member would be grandfathered in and the Board size reduced to 15 by attrition. Charles will compose motion and send to Tom.

Board Meetings

This Board will meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 4pm by ZOOM. The 1814 Committee is meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Tom asked if the Board and Committee should meet together. No decision was made.

Action Items

Bruce

- Help on Google Doc spreadsheet

Forrest

- Send check to Chamber for membership

Lana

- Work with Rich, Wendy, and Vicki on Valcour Brewery

Linda

- Provide Tom with listing of in-kind services the City provided to the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration
- Send Tom her commemoration schedule
- Send Mary Simmers her commemoration schedule

Mary

- Collect “Plan of Action” forms from Board members

Rich

- Work with Lana, Wendy, and Megan on Valcour including which days it would be available

Tim

- Contact Diane Kwarta

Tom

- Meet with Mayor of Plattsburgh
- Follow up with Skippy Dubrey on information he has on Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration including, budgets, contract information, contact information, music, and band information
- Money for reenactors and reenactments
- Email out the BOP schedules to Board members
- Email Board members a request for a vote on using Valcour Brewery

Vicki

- Work with Rich, Wendy, and Lana on Valcour

Wendy

- Continue working on dance instructions
- Check out Valcour Brewing including acoustics, space...

All Board Members

- Tom asked for any questions that he needs to ask the Mayor.
- Review schedules that Tom will send out and give feedback to Tom and Chris
- Review Tom’s request for a vote on Valcour Brewing Company and return to Tom and Chris.
- Let Tom and Linda know if you have any contacts with area businesses that could be used for personal contact for sponsorship requests.

Adjournment

Tim Horn moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mary Simmers seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48pm

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Ransom, Secretary