

## 1814 Board

Meeting via ZOOM

Friday, January 28, 2021

4:02pm-5:28 pm

### **Board Members Present:**

Tom Donahue  
Richard Frost  
Wendy Gilchrist  
Vicki Giroux  
Jim Guinness  
Tim Horn  
Judy Lefebvre  
Charles Loscalzo  
PJ Miller  
Emily Moosmann  
Lana Putnam  
Chris Ransom  
Mary Simmers  
Samantha Williams

### **Board Members Not Present:**

Forrest Edwards  
Linda Masterson Ward

### **Advisor Present:**

Bruce Carlin

### **Agenda**

President, Tom Donahue called the meeting of the Board of Directors of 1814 Inc. to order at 4:02pm, welcomed everyone and presented the agenda for the meeting. He suggested an amendment to the agenda to add Geri Favreau as a Board member. Mary Simmers moved to accept the agenda with the amendment. Chris Ransom seconded. There was no discussion, and the agenda was adopted. (Vote: 11-yes; 0-no; 0-abstentions)

### **Minutes**

Minutes from the January 8, 2021 meeting of the 1814 Board were approved by an email vote of 11/16 on January 20, 2021. Tom asked if there was further discussion on the minutes from Jan 8, 2021. There was no further discussion.

### **Contracts**

Tom Donahue suggested a need for a lawyer to review the contracts we will need to make for the Commemoration. Possible lawyers to contact might be Mary Anne Bukolt Ryder or Benjamin Pomerance. If they cannot help, they might suggest someone. We also need to draft contracts. Skippy Dubrey might have past contracts. Tom will follow up with Skippy. We believe that Skippy's job in the City will include the Rec Center, Marina and Community Events.

### **Meeting with Mayor**

Tom plans to meet with the Mayor of Plattsburgh in early February. Things to discuss include:

- 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

### **Schedule**

Tom suggested drafting a schedule for the Commemoration is a high priority.

### **Sponsorship Categories**

Tom suggested categories from \$100. to \$10,000. It is time to be soliciting for sponsorship.

### **Coordination of Events**

Mary Simmers requested that everyone complete the Plan of Action form she provided. Chris Ransom emailed the form to the Board.

### **1814 Website**

The 1814 Board and Board minutes from Jan 8, 2021 have been added to the 1814 website.

### **Budget/Costs**

Tom asked that for information on costs for events planned. This is essential to draft a proposed budget which is needed as we seek sponsorships and grants.

### **Grants**

Tom said that Linda Ward could not attend today as she is working with Tom's brother Bill on an Adirondack Foundation grant. The deadline is Feb 1, 2021. They applied for a Lake Champlain Basin grant but were denied. They are considering a Georgia Pacific grant. Last year they applied for a Pomeroy Foundation grant and Stewarts grant. We received both. Samantha Williams suggested applying to Walmart. She says the application is easy, available on their web site and grants range from \$500. to \$1,000. Tim Horn mentioned that there are NYS grants that we might apply for.

Rich Frost explained the Chapel Hill Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to enrich the lives of children or to meet the challenges of an aging society. He thinks that the essay contest, the art for the button or the Kids' Games might be considered. Most grants are awarded in the fall, but he might be able to have a grant from us considered in the Spring. We would need to convince an 8-member board of the value of our request.

Tom mentioned an untapped source of sponsorship and grants may be the many Canadian companies in Plattsburgh. Please send any grant ideas to Tom and Linda.

### **Bands**

Vicki Giroux confirmed that bands are always a huge draw. She mentioned that when military bands perform at the Battle of Plattsburgh it is considered a “recruiting mission”. Mary Simmers mentioned that we could connect the bands with local youth musicians. Vicki has contacted the Royal Marines and they are interested in coming if possible. They have not been able to practice for a year. They might send small groups. Bus transportation might be an issue with COVID. Vicki will check with Kit about the Navy Band and other bands. Jim Guinness mentioned the Adirondack Jazz Orchestra and that we need to look at local groups.

### **Macomb Ball, Dancing and Music**

Wendy Gilchrist is interested in working on the Macomb Ball and period music and dancing lessons which could be recorded and posted on the 1814 website and used in displays at mall. Bruce Carlin said recording would be about two hours. Wendy said the Macomb Ball would be good on Saturday night or maybe on a Friday night? The Ball and a Military Band performance should NOT be scheduled at the same time. Wendy is not as interested in working on bands. She would like to work with small, local groups on period music. Keith Lunn, Gary VanCour and Skippy Dubrey all have worked on music.

### **Historical Talks**

Rich Frost said that he could put historical talks into the slots that he is given.

### **Old Post Cemetery**

Judy Lefebvre would like to have a schedule so she could see where to schedule the Old Post Cemetery.

### **Fireworks**

Fireworks cost about \$6,000. Eagles’ Nest has paid for fireworks in the past and has offered to pay for in 2020. Sam asked that fireworks NOT be set off by the sewage treatment plant as the debris landed on the KDH which is a fire hazard.

### **Sunday Events**

There was discussion on expanding Sunday activities. We might expand activities on and near the Oval. Include the museums.... barracks....? Maybe a tavern?

### **Reenactments**

PJ Miller sent out tentative invitations to possible reenactors. So far, no hard commitments. Samantha Williams said that the KDH does not know when it can go back to face-face-face, in-person activities. There are multiple problems with using the KDH property and the property behind the KDH property. The basic cost for reenactors is \$5,000. for stipends. \$5,000 does not include porta potties, showers, food, ships, clean up. The range of cost is \$5,000. to \$10,000. 150 reenactors would be too many to have on the KDH property. 15-20 people might be OK? The property behind the KDH property cannot be used until trees are removed due to safety issues. The area near the harbor used in 2020 might be an option. PJ mentioned that there are

only four bateaus in the area right now. The Lake level may be too low for battles? PJ would like to have opposing battles if face to face is allowed. PJ has contacted Matt Boire who has agreed to do the narrations.

### **Costume Making**

PJ contacted Sharon Bell about dress making lessons. These could be filmed and made available on the website. PJ will be following up with Sharon next week. PJ will do the men's costumes and Sharon will do the women's. They will demonstrate basic sewing techniques, patterns, materials, etc.

### **Schedule**

Date of Battle of Plattsburgh in 2021: September 11, 2021 is a Saturday. The plan is to have a four-day event from Thursday through Sunday (September 9 through September 12, 2021). Vicki volunteered to work with Mary Simmers and others on a schedule. Tom will send out the 2019 schedule to Board members. Rich Frost recommended that each Board member and Advisor submit the top 8-10 activities he or she would like for the 2021 Commemoration.

### **Addition of Board Member**

Tom suggested the addition of Geri Favreau to the Board. Geri would represent the Old Base, the museums including Clinton County Historical Museum, Battle of Plattsburgh Museum, etc. Mary Simmers moved to add Geri Favreau to the Board, but the motion failed for lack of a second. There was discussion. Everyone would like to have Geri Favreau on the Board but there was a concern that our Board is already too large at 16 members. Another idea was to have Geri Favreau be a member of the 1814 Committee. Samantha Williams could be the museum representative on the Board and Geri could report to Sam.

### **Website Updates and Additions**

Bruce has added minutes and Board Members to website.

### **Board Meetings**

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

### **Issues**

Tom encountered technology failures during the meeting.

### **Action Items**

#### 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 2019 BOP schedule to Board members
- Talk with Geri Favreau about reporting through Samantha Williams

Vicki

- Continue to follow up with Royal Marines
- Check with Kit about Navy Band and other bands
- Contact Bud Smith
- Draft a schedule with Mary and others

Mary

- Draft a schedule with Vicki
- Collect “Plan of Action” forms from Board members

PJ

- PJ will follow up with Sharon Bell on sewing lessons recording
- Continue to follow up with reenactors

Sam

- Sam will ask Kit to call about the trees that need to be removed from property behind KDH property.

Wendy

- Work on possible video for dance instructions.

All Board Members

- Submit to Chris and Tom choices of top 8-10 activities for the 2021 Commemoration
- Submit to Mary Simmers her “Plan of Action” form for activities they have done or will be working on
- Submit costs for activities they have done or will be working on to Tom
- Send any grant ideas to Linda Ward and Tom Donahue

Music

- Contact Keith Lunn for music info

Lawyers/Contracts

- Contact lawyers Mary Anne Bukolt Ryder and Benjamin Pomerance for in-kind help or suggestions on who to ask

**Adjournment**

Chris moved to adjourn the meeting.

Lana seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28pm

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Ransom, Secretary

Revised Feb 3, 2021 1:26pm

Revised Feb 5, 2021 6:44pm

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