

City of Cambridge

The Committee on the Celebration of the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of Cambridge's Incorporation held a public meeting on Friday March 22, 1996, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Ackermann Room for the purpose of planning the anniversary celebration.

Present at the hearing were Vice Mayor Kathleen L. Born and Councillor Michael A. Sullivan, Co-Chairs of the Committee, Councillor Henrietta Davis, and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present were John Breneman, Cambridge Chronicle; Larry Burke, North Cambridge Crime Task Force; Mary Ellen Carvello, City Manager's Office; Lisa Deller, North Cambridge Crime Task Force; Zelma O. Evelyn; Lindsay Field, Arts Council; Mary Ann Jarvis, Harvard University; Rick Jarvis, Com/Energy; Bill Jones, Cambridge; Pallas Lombardi, Arts Council; Laura Migliori, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce; Kit Rawlins, Historical Commission; Howard Jay Rosenthal, Cambridge Current; Maura Smith, Cambridge Tourism; Don York, Cambridge Public Library; Sandra Albano, Assistant to the City Council.

Vice Mayor Born convened the hearing and explained the purpose. She requested that Lindsay Field start with a discussion on the parade. Ms. Field distributed a document entitled "Parade Ideas" (Attachment A).

Councillor Davis observed that Cambridge Rindge and Latin School bands should be included. It was agreed that Lindsay Field would contact the CRLS music department.

Councillor Davis stated that a lot of effort should be expended in finding Cambridge groups to participate. Maura Smith suggested that all Cambridge groups have a special banner with an identifying logo.

Vice Mayor Born suggested contacting the Cambridge Philharmonica, the Dante Alligheri Society, the Longy School, and the New School of Music. She also suggested contacting other cities named Cambridge and inviting them to participate. Maura Smith suggested that Harvard and other college alumni who are Cambridge residents could march in groups.

Rick Jarvis suggested contacting alumni associations.

William Jones suggested adding the former City Councillors.

It was agreed that the Arts Council will work from the existing list (Exhibit A) and expand it.

William Jones asked how many bands will be in the parade. Pallas Lombardi said that the larger the parade, the more bands are needed.

Larry Burke said North Cambridge Crime Task Force will have a float. William Jones suggested floats for all city departments, as in the 1946 parade.

Councillor Davis suggested elementary schools might want to participate.

Vice Mayor Born turned the discussion to the parade route.

Councillor Sullivan suggested a route down Cambridge to Prospect, left onto Prospect, right on to Massachusetts Avenue, Mount Auburn Street down to Memorial Drive. Councillor Born requested several draft proposals for parade routes by the next meeting.

William Jones suggested old vehicles. Mary Ann Jarvis suggested contacting Manny Rogers in this regard.

It was agreed that the parade starting time is ten o'clock a.m.

Vice Mayor Born requested a report from the business committee. Rick Jarvis said that he had contacted the candy companies. Both are willing to donate candy, and both Squirrel Brand and Cambridge Brands are willing to display their old signs. Mr. Jarvis reported that the Chamber of Commerce cannot do fundraising for this. Councillor Born asked for a working list of businesses that have been here for one hundred fifty years and a draft letter of initial contact to businesses for the next meeting, and Rick Jarvis agreed.

Discussion moved to the Danehy Park event. It was tentatively agreed that the event will be an old-fashioned Labor Day picnic on Labor Day. Councillor Born observed that there is a need for a subcommittee for the event. It was agreed that Councillor Davis will chair the subcommittee. The committee will also include Paul Ryder, Mary Ann Jarvis, and a representative of the Arts Council. David O'Connor will be contacted.

Rick Jarvis suggested a time capsule. Maura Smith said that one was done in the 1980's at the one hundredth anniversary of City Hall.

Vice Mayor Born noted that May 6th is the Monday closest to the anniversary of the first City Council meeting of Cambridge as a city. Councillor Sullivan suggested a kickoff event on May 6th. He added that if the committee decided the commemorative meeting should be closer to the other celebrations, then the first September business meeting could be on the September 5th, Thursday, and there could be a commemorative meeting on Monday, September 7. Maura Smith suggested having the commemorative meeting on September 7th, with the business meeting the previous Thursday.

Councillor Davis noted the need for schools involvement and said that she would contact Claire Murphy.

A "Cambridge Writes" committee was suggested by Vice Mayor Born. Vice Mayor Born and John Breneman volunteered. Vice Mayor Born described a concept of getting Cambridge's well-known writers to help out in workshops to encourage residents to write their reminiscences and impressions of Cambridge.

Rick Jarvis suggested having the Cambridge Electric Light Horn, which used to signal curfew. It was suggested that churches, houses of worship, and meditation groups, be contacted to have services marking the event. Mary Ann Jarvis suggested contacting Peter Gomes. Councillor Davis said she would be more comfortable with having a religion person organizing the religious aspect.

Lisa Deller, North Cambridge Crime Task Force, invited the committee's participation in the National Night Out Against Crime in August.

The next meeting was set for Friday April 5, 1996 at ten o'clock a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

For the Committee

Kathleen L. Born DMD

Vice Mayor Kathleen L. Born, Co-Chair

Michael A. Sullivan

Councillor Michael A. Sullivan, Co-Chair

REPORT ACCEPTED. PLACED ON FILE.

Ideas for 150th Parade

Grand Marshall(s) in horse drawn vehicle or 50's convertible??

Marching bands: (12)

- + Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drums 15 - 30 people, accurate musician's dress uniforms from Washington's 1779 colonial army. Available
- + Boston Crusaders Senior Drum and Bugle Corps, Rich Gobbi
70-100 people, traditional--some variety of relaxed uniform. Available
- + Reading High School, VERY good, Dave Buntin, Music Dept. They are available and are sending video tape (return), 110 people and growing.
- ++ Sons of Italy, Haverill, Italian Drum Corps--good and splashy. They wear green and white uniforms and do a lot of maneuvering. (Haven't reached yet.)
- + Boston University, red and white uniforms, they are available and will send tape, 100 to 120 people.
- ++ Boston College, good but expensive, Baybank is a likely sponsor...
- + Clan MacPherson Pipe Band, they are available, and will pencil us in; we should let them know within a couple of weeks. The dress is full Black Watch regimental, there are 15 to 20 members.
- ++ Cambridge Harmonica Orchestra (They will need a flat bed truck.)
- ++ Samba Band with dancers - Deraldo Ferreira
- + Steel Pan Band - Mackie Burnette - (will also need a truck) Available
- + Hot Tamales Brass Band is available, they have penciled us in.
- ++ African Drumming group (talk to DeAma)

Other performing groups:

- + Cycling Murrays, Spoke with Tegan, date is free, she will pencil us in, let her know by 4/10.
- ++ Stiltwalkers

Budweiser Clydesdales (3/18--have drafted letter for Kathy Born's and Michael Sullivan's signatures. Maryellen will put on 150th letterhead and send to Will Anastas, Will says they will let us know fairly soon. Checked with MDC--only issue is clean-up; also no alcohol advertising.

Minature donkeys in red harnesses

Antique cars - drivers in costume --contest, prize "CAR TALK", look for clubs

bicycles (decorated--have contest, prizes by age group)

fire trucks--try to get antiques as well as new

Horse-drawn vehicles (Talk to people at Faneuil Hall?)

Historic vignettes/pageants (Place Fife and Drum Corps next to costumed marchers) Talk to Historic Society and neighborhood councils, schools?

Floats (contest/prizes by categories--community, business, etc.)

Girl and Boy Scouts

Clubs and Organizations - encourage development of theme

Cambridge Chronicle
Longfellow House
Cambridge Community Center
No Frills
The Druid (they have great costumes)
Chamber of Commerce
Tourism
Business Associations
Dance Complex
Positive Edge
CAOS
Library
Community Chorus
Dante Alighieri
Folk Arts Network/Street Artists Guild/Passim
Cambridge Art Association
CCTV
Community Art Center
GNE Music
1359 Jazz Club
CMAC
African-American Historical Society (check name)
VFW

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Churches, Temples

Visiting Nurses Association

Historic Society

galleries: Piano Dave's, Zeitgeist, etc.

Harvard, MIT, Lesley, Cambridge College

Cambridge Center for Adult Ed.

Youth Centers

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Michael A. Sullivan

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Committee Report #6

S-189

Celebration of the Sesquicentennial
Anniversary of Cambridge's Incorporation
for the purpose of planning the anniversary
celebration.

In City Council April 8, 1996

Report Accepted
Placed on file