



## ***Somersworth 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission***

One Government Way Somersworth, NH 03878

Minutes of 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission of 22 April 2018: 1<sup>st</sup> draft

### ***Praesens:***

Jenne Holmes, Chair	Steve McHugh
Rick Michaud, Vice Chair	Dave Nagy
Gerri Cannon	Ann Ward
Dina Gagnon	Pius Murray, Secretary
Frank Kennedy	

## **Agenda and Meeting**

**I. Call to Order:** At 4:05 pm by the Chair.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the March 2017 minutes as submitted was made by Ms. Cannon and seconded by Ms. Ward. Motion was adopted unanimously.

**III. Old Business:**

A. Somersworth Athletic Association (SAA)

The coordinators (Mr. Nagy and Mr. McHugh) reported that the Band Concert scheduled for Saturday, 11 August 2018, has the five bands committed but is still working on Pot-A-Potties and beer.

The coordinators wanted a catchy name so that they could begin advertising. Several names were bandied about including Top N Rock 2018, Tops O'Rock Music Festival 2018. Motion to adopt Toppers Rock 2018 as the official name of the band concert was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Michaud. Motion was adopted unanimously. Mr. Kennedy recommended erecting a 6' banner at the entrance. The Chair thought it would be better placed on the stage in back of the bands. The Commission agreed. The Chair stated that she would sell tickets on Eventbrite. The Chair recommended offering an Early Bird special. Regular prices would be \$20 for an individual, \$30 for a couple, and \$35 for a family. Eventbrite can track how many children and what their ages are. The hours for the concert are 1:00pm-8:00pm.

The coordinators plan to have 4-5 concession stands with food that will be manned each by a high school sports team. The proceeds will go to sports team manning the stand.

The coordinators further announced the SAA Golf Tournament on Saturday, 2 June 2018, at the Rochester Country Club.

The Chair thanked the SAA coordinators for all their hard work.

B. Fireworks

The Chair reported that the co-sporing of the Fireworks by the Children's Festival and the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission will not happen.

Mayor Hilliard has suggested having the Fireworks, which he is gun-ho on having, at the SHS's Homecoming. There could be a tailgate party sponsored by the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission. Sommeone looked up the date of SHS Homecoming: Wednesday, 10 October 2018. This way the Alumni Association could become involved. There could be an alumni picnic on either Monday 15 October 20018 or Monday, 22 October 2018 thus staying away from the Pumpkin Patch Celebration in Somersworth. This could also include tours of SHS by members of the Student Government Association. Make it a family event.

The recommended date for the alumni picnic is Saturday, 22 September 2018. The vast amount of food will be sponsored by the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission. The Chair is looking for corporate sponsors to help dray the cost of the fireworks.

C. Taste of Somersworth at Mulligan's Grill on Wednesday, 18 April 2018, co-sponsored with the Somersworth Cultural Commission.

The Chair asked for honest appraisals so that if such an event is ever done in the future again any hiccups could be avoided. Ms. Gagnon did not like the set-up of tables because too many people were left standing. Mr. Michaud thought that the selection of buffet items was good and that the people enjoyed the selections..

The Chair thought the number of attendees was just good enough. The Chair said that neither co-sponsor had any input into set-up; that was all up to Sherie. The \$15.00 price means that a little profit was made. Ms. Gagnon suggested offering bottled water in addition to lemonade

The Chair said she would write up a report and send it to the Cultural Commission. Her recommendation may include specific places coupled with specific ethnic groups.

Ms. Cannon recommended showing a slide show. Mr. Murray and Ms. Ward recommended further a Trivia Contest (as done at the Land Use Boards Appreciation Dinner). The consensus of the Commission was to make the dinner an educational event.

#### D. Somersworth Clean-Up Day

The Chair announced that Somersworth's annual Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, 5 May 2018. The Chair asked for help setting up Somersworth's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission's vendor booth between 11:30am-1:00pm. Mr. Kennedy recommended a sign holder and/or T-shirt exhibit to increase sales.

#### E. Food Truck Festival

The Chair reported that the Food Truck Festival, to be held on Father's Day (17 June 2018), has invited the Somersworth 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission to have a table. Public viewing is Noon-2:00pm; the VIP tour lasts from 11:00am-5:00pm. The Chair would expect the 125<sup>th</sup> Commission to take the noon-2:00pm slot. Volunteers at half an hour per assignment are sought.

#### F. Cemetery Trustees program

The Chair reported that Maggie Roberge has invited the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission to attend a talk with Peter Michaud on Sunday, 10 June 2018. Furthermore, on Sunday 19 August 2018, at 2:00pm there is a service at the Forest Glade Cemetery chapel.

#### G. November Gala

The Chair reported that VFW could only offer Saturday, 10 November 2018, to the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission's Gala. The time is 7:00pm-11:00pm. The Chair deputized Mr. Kennedy for getting the cake for the Gala to feed 100-125 people as he had done such a wonderful job for the first event at the Somersworth Historical Museum. The consensus of the Commission was to have a DJ playing music. Dress is to be smart casual. Price should be low enough (\$10-\$15) to allow more people to afford buying tickets. The Chair has asked the VFW to create a special Hilltopper drink for \$1 to commemorate the celebration. Offering a cash bar enables the VFW to make money. There should be slides celebrating Somersworth's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a city projected on the VFW walls by decade.

There was discussion of having a photo booth of disposal cameras on tables for attendees to take their own pictures. The consensus of the Commission was for the disposable cameras (less cost). Other fun things to do would be a raffle or series of raffles and to ask the DJ to do some fun things.

Possible name: Hilltop Rocks on Stage.

#### H. 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission budget

The Chair reported that the city council has approved a FY19 budget of \$5,000 for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission.

#### I. Sale of Merchandise

The Chair reports that the sale of T-Shirts is going well.

#### **IV. New Business:**

A. The Commission will continue to plan and partner with local Somersworth organizations to celebrate the City's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a city. Participation in the Christmas Parade with a banner is a possibility.

B. Any other New Business that may come before the Commission.

#### **V. Communications and Miscellaneous:**

There were none.

**VI. Next Meeting:** Sunday, 20 May 2018 at 4:00 pm at City Hall.

**VII. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 5:03 pm was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Gagnon. Motion was adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pius Charles Murray*

(Mr.) Pius Charles Murray, MLS, MPA  
Secretary

