



## **MINUTES**

Bicentennial Meeting of the Whole Minutes  
March 10, 2010

The Meeting of the Whole was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Co-Chairman DeWolf in the Human Services Gathering Room. There were a total of 35 members in attendance (27 members and 8 new members). He thanked everyone for attending and stated that monthly meetings would be held for the remainder of the year, once 2011 arrives the meetings might not be as frequent. Co-Chairman DeWolf introduced Co-Chairman Faulhaber, Advisor Larry Potla (President of City Council) and Chairman Mark Jantzen, Fundraiser Committee (Brecksville-Broadview Heights School Board Member). Co-Chairman DeWolf introduced several new members of the Bicentennial Committee, each member gave a little information on themselves, and Mayor Hruby was introduced at this time. All new members were asked to fill out a Bicentennial form and hand them in at the end of the meeting. Everyone was asked to invite their friends and neighbors to participate in the planning of Bicentennial events. Co-Chairman DeWolf reminded everyone that the Bicentennial Events will last for an entire year, commencing with the Christmas Parade in 2010 and ending with the Christmas Parade in 2011. He stated that there has been a lot of progress made but there is still a lot to do. Articles regarding the Bicentennial have been in the local newspapers and hopefully articles will continue monthly. The Gazette has agreed to run Bicentennial articles every issue – rotating between articles on information and history.

Co-Chairman DeWolf introduced Co-Chairman Faulhaber to discuss the events calendar. He mentioned that not all items are on this calendar yet. We are still waiting to see who the Ohio Chautauqua Foundation selects, only five cities will be chosen. On March 9th, a representative visited Brecksville to look at the sites that were listed on the grant application. There are twelve applicants from Northeast Ohio, hopefully we will be one of the cities chosen..

## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

Co-Chairman Faulhaber discussed the Events Calendar. The events were color coded – confirmed, proposed but not confirmed and existing City events. The first event will be the Kick-Off Christmas Parade on December 5, 2010. Anyone who has an event to be added or changed, please contact Co-Chairman Faulhaber. All City events should have a Bicentennial theme. This event calendar is not on the website yet, but will be shortly; it has been published in the Brecksville Bulletin.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

# **City of Brecksville Bicentennial 1811 – 2011**

Co-Chairman DeWolf stated that at the January meeting Co-Chairwoman Burlingham distributed the guidelines to be used for purchasing items and Co-Chairwoman Price distributed finance procedures. To date, nothing has been submitted.

## **SECRETARY COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairman DeWolf thanked Co-Chairwomen Scullin and Longo for the speedy turnaround of distributing the minutes from each meeting.

## **PUBLICITY/GRAPHICS COMMITTEE**

Chairwoman Farr reported there will be frequent changes and updates on the Bicentennial website. There is a link on our website that will connect you to Facebook, as of now, there are 329 members and that number increases daily. Chairwoman Farr is getting prices on the following promotional items: long-sleeve and short-sleeve polos, a hoodie, a tee-shirt (this will be a giveaway at Home Days), a coffee mug, “on the rocks” set of glasses, a pewter Christmas ornament, tote bag (two are being priced, one is insulated) and a drawstring backpack. We will possibly sell Captain Breck’s Rum Cakes at our Home Days and it is possible to add a link to our website to purchase a rum cake. Other items that are being considered and priced are: a china collectors plate, a collector’s coin, a Bicentennial flag, a pen with a retractable event calendar, golf towels and water bottles (which have been purchased through the City’s recycling grant). Chairwoman Farr is pricing all of the above items. If any of the members know of a vendor that we should contact, please let her know. All items will display the Bicentennial logo.

## **HISTORIAN COMMITTEE**

Chairwoman Bartsch reported that since the last meeting in January, the committee added another project. Following is her update on all five projects:

### **Historical Program Series**

There will be a series of six presentations for the Historical Program Series at the library. Cathie Clager will have a dry run of the presentation at the March Historian Committee Meeting on March 29, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. entitled “The Center of it All.” All members are invited to attend. The remaining five are “I Know Where That Is!,” “Cemeteries and Their Famous Residents,” “War Heroes and the Home Front,” “Recess and ‘Rithmetic” and “Occasions, Special and Otherwise.”

### **Family History Project**

Draft questionnaires have been filled out and submitted regarding family history, fun fact sheet and opportunity to share a memory. A trial run is in progress to discuss the results. The forms will be on the website soon and residents are asked to fill them out electronically and submit them to the Brecksville Historical Association or the Broadview Heights Historical Society.

### **Adult Commemorative Book**

This book is in the preliminary planning stages. The committee is looking for examples (books published by other cities), contacting publishers and most importantly looking for authors. This book will be published in 2012 in order to include all Bicentennial information and events.

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## **Children's Activity Project**

The committee is working on a coloring book and trying to coordinate projects with the 3rd grade teachers.

## **200th Birthday Book**

This will include all children in Brecksville, any type of project – a poem, artwork, story or whatever they would like to contribute. All items will be enclosed in the Time Capsule and each child will receive a reward for participating.

The Historian Committee meets at 7:00 P.M. the last Monday of every month, membership is free and volunteers are welcome.

## **EVENTS COMMITTEE**

Events Chairwoman Lynda Sabat asked everyone to be creative and “think outside the box” in order to make each event better – not just what we traditionally do.

## **Bicentennial Ball**

The committee is still investigating venues, bids have been sent out. The committee is trying to get the best value and best venue for this event...the best value for our dollar. The committee is working very hard to create something we can all be proud of.

## **Garden, Art Shows & Tours**

Chairman Bauer has contacted local artists to display their work in various City buildings and businesses. Work is ongoing regarding the Highland Road Cemetery Tour; actors will be chosen to depict historic community figures. This event will be scheduled in October. The Brecksville Beautification Committee will have a Home and Garden Tour in Brecksville and Broadview Heights on June 12, 2011.

## **Fundraising**

Mark Jantzen has agreed to chair this committee, and Bob and Debbie Gearhart have agreed to help. This committee is looking for volunteers.

## **Silent Auction**

Chairwoman Sabat is asking for volunteers to help organize a Silent Auction to be held this year during Home Days weekend in the Old Town Hall. Volunteers are needed to find donations and volunteers to gather the items that are donated. Saula Narbutaitis has agreed to chair the 2011 Silent Auction.

## **Bicentennial Parade**

Rudy Rosales has agreed to chair this event with Gavin Ramsey helping to contact participants. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, June 25, 2011, and the committee is planning a juried parade/historic progressive parade.

## **Car Show**

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The car show is scheduled for Saturday, June 25, 2011 in front of the Central School. Bob Pech will contact classic car owners, select judges and trophies will be awarded for different categories. The committee is trying to obtain a Ford Concept car.

## **Theatrical & Entertainment Productions**

On June 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, 2011, Music Man will be performed at the Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School auditorium. Mr. Valley, Mr. Nowlin, the high school band, orchestra and Music in Motion will all be involved in this production. Royalties are being secured and local people will be in the cast.

## **Ohio Chautauqua**

Chairwoman Sabat reported that the site visit by a member of the Ohio Chautauqua Foundation on March 9th went well. We are being considered for one of five communities to host this event.

If we are selected, the event would be in late June or July of 2011. A 60x90 tent would be set up in the football practice field of the high school, and the event would be for five days and nights. Every night would be a different presentation about the Civil War and during the day activities would be ongoing for children and adults.

## **Churches in the Community**

Pastor Oehl of Brecksville United Methodist Church is contacting churches in the community to participate in an All Saints Celebration on Sunday, October 20, 2011.

Events Chairwoman Sabat reported that the next Events Sub-Committees Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00 P.M. in the Human Services Gathering Room. She asked all members to feel free to attend and consider working on more than one committee.

## **PROJECT COMMITTEE**

Project Chairman Giere reported that their next meeting will be Tuesday, March 16 at the Merrill Lynch Office at 6:30 P.M.

## **Historic Playing Cards**

The committee will be discussing the best way to sell cards. Sylvia Fowler will be handling the list of cards and pictures and all salespeople will need to coordinate sales with her list. Sylvia Fowler addressed the committee and advised that anyone can contact her to sponsor a card. There are several prices: (2-10) \$60, (Jack through King Wild/Joker) \$125, (Aces) \$200 and Business Logo or Trivia Cards \$250. Cards can say "Sponsored by..." or "In Memory of..." More information on the sales of cards will be in the next Brecksville Bulletin.

## **Farm Wagon**

The Brecksville Historical Association's farm wagon has been restored and Chairman Giere and Sylvia Fowler will be picking it up soon. Co-Chairman DeWolf added that this farm wagon has been in past parades and Tom Fowler spearheaded the refurbishing of this wagon in order to be able to use it during our Bicentennial events.

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## Scenic Railroad

Committee members are still brainstorming on a joint event.

Co-Chairman DeWolf invited Mayor Hruby to make a few comments. Mayor Hruby stated that this event is to get the people of Brecksville and Broadview Heights together and celebrate the 200 year history of our community. Mayor Hruby is hoping these events will draw the two communities together since we were all Brecksville at one time. He would like to celebrate the history, inform people about our history, promote both historical associations, create memories and have events that people can enjoy.

Mayor Hruby advised the committee that seed money will be provided by the City of Brecksville for all events and projects. Please advise the Finance Committee regarding your needs. Mayor Hruby also stated we need more people to help, if everyone could bring a neighbor or a friend, then it would be possible to handle all projects and nothing would have to be put aside because there is not enough manpower. You can be part of any committee or as many committees as you would like.

The City will help cover the Home Days events and will help with the parades. Music Man will be a monumental event for all of us and will be a combined effort from everyone. The Bicentennial Ball will be a wonderful time to have fun and celebrate. The work that has been done on all committees so far is just remarkable.

Mayor Hruby stated there is a possibility that House of LaRose might be able to provide the Clydesdales for our parade. If this becomes a reality, then we would be able to add a few more events. Colonel Mike Good, who will be going up in the space shuttle, has offered to take our Bicentennial banner along with a City pin into space with him. He has agreed to attend the weekend of our Home Days (that is his school reunion weekend) and we hope that other alumni will consider coming back that weekend. We would like to invite celebrities to join us during our events, if you can think of anyone, please let us know. A few people we will be trying to contact are: Bob Wells, Coach Belichick and Forrest Gregg.

Mayor Hruby reminded everyone that our schedule and planning will be continually changing. He thanked the Historical Association for restoring the farm wagon from the Sesquicentennial in 1961. The deck of playing cards is a wonderful idea and he thanked Sylvia Fowler for her work on this project. The Mayor also reminded everyone that we are looking for old photos and old movies as well as old stories. He stated we are celebrating our history and all stories are welcome – not just stories from 1811. People can write about anything. When the Mayor speaks every year with the the third graders there is always some who tell stories of what they have heard from their parents or grandparents about Brecksville. The Mayor said we are looking for people stories – true characters of Brecksville who played a role in the history of our community. Mayor Hruby advised if you are a good writer, we will give you a topic. All decades are important – not just the early 1900s - the 50s, 60s and 70s are just as important – we need to keep our history alive. This historical information will be kept with both historical associations, and

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money will be raised to properly store and preserve these items. Please encourage everyone to fill out the historical family questionnaires.

The next Meeting of the Whole will be on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Human Services Gathering Room.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

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Co-Chairman Frank DeWolf

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Co-Chairman Donald Faulhaber