

City of Brecksville Bicentennial 1811 – 2011

MINUTES

Bicentennial Committee Meeting
September 2, 2009

Mayor Jerry N. Hruby called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. in the Human Services Department Gathering Room with 36 people in attendance. Richfield, Ohio is celebrating its 200th Anniversary in 2009. The Mayor encouraged everyone to visit the Village of Richfield website to learn about the various bicentennial events planned in 2009 and also to attend upcoming events.

The Executive Committee has met independently since the last meeting of the Brecksville Bicentennial Committee. Executive Committee Co-Chairs have been named and will be giving an update later in the meeting.

Mayor Hruby said that the logo for the Brecksville Bicentennial will be unveiled this evening. The Executive Committee agreed that a logo contest could be held for a children's logo but that the City of Brecksville Bicentennial logo should be done professionally. City Graphics Designer, Jinny Farr, was introduced. Ms. Farr said that of the logos she designed, she presented five to the Executive Committee and everyone unanimously chose the same logo. She showed a rendering of the Brecksville Bicentennial logo which is red, white and blue, and based upon the City's current logo that she and Mayor Hruby designed in 1994. All present showed their agreement with the Brecksville Bicentennial logo choice by applause. The audience was asked if anyone had any objections and none were heard.

The Mayor announced that Donald Faulhaber and Frank DeWolf have graciously agreed to be Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee. He said that he can not think of two finer individuals to lead the group. Both men are lifelong residents of Brecksville and Broadview Heights and are active members of the community. Midge Cassidy, a lifelong resident and descendent of the Dillow-Wood families, and former Mayor Robert Kubicek are Honorary Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee. Mayor Hruby and Council President Larry Potla are Advisors to the Executive Committee.

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Frank De-Wolf said that it is his privilege to serve as Co-Chair of the Executive Committee and that he looks forward to working with all of the Bicentennial Committee members. He said that he knows that all volunteers have fond memories of living in Brecksville and will work hard to showcase our community during its Bicentennial year. Co-Chair DeWolf said that planning needs to start now and it is important to establish leadership for the various standing committees. He reviewed the structure and by-laws of the Standing Committees and said that this evening's meeting would be classified as a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Co-Chair Don Faulhaber said that the Brecksville Bicentennial will be a year-long celebration in 2011 with at least one event planned each month. Kick-off of the Brecksville Bicentennial will be the 2010 Christmas parade and annual events in the cities of Brecksville and Broadview Heights will be incorporated into the Brecksville Bicentennial celebration. Potential additional events such as a Bicentennial Ball, Tent Circus, Civil War Re-enactment, Concert, Theatrical Productions, Home-Garden-Cemetery Tours, and projects and events that include students and young children are also under consideration. The Brecksville Bicentennial Committee originally came up with 72 ideas that have been pared down to 21. Co-Chair Faulhaber said that it is up to the Bicentennial Committee to make final decisions on projects and events that will be scheduled throughout the Brecksville Bicentennial year.

The importance of establishing leadership and getting started right away on planning events and fundraisers was reiterated. Projects such as writing an historical book, creation of a deck of cards with historical pictures, or the sale of other permanent remembrances of the Brecksville Bicentennial require a lot of lead time. It was also stressed how important publicity and marketing are to the success of the Brecksville Bicentennial.

Those present were asked to select the Standing Committee on which they want to serve and elect a chairperson if one has not already been assigned. The Standing Committees should then establish sub-committees and assign chairperson(s). Sub-committees will then break into small groups to discuss specific projects and events for which they will be responsible. The Mayor said that volunteers are welcome to serve on more than one committee if they have a talent or interest in particular projects and events.

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Mayor Hruby announced that Rich and Linda Packard offered to act as Co-Chairs of the Brecksville Bicentennial Parades Committee. The Packard family organized City of Brecksville parades for many years.

After lengthy discussion, the Standing Committees reported as follows:

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Chairperson Lynda Sabat

Events Sub-Committees:

Bicentennial Ball

Co-Chairs: Elaine Niebaum and Ann Hamski

Bicentennial Parade(s)

Co-Chairs: Rich and Linda Packard

Bicentennial Garden, Art Shows & Tours

Chairman Rob Bauer

Bicentennial Theatrical and Entertainment Productions

Co-Chairs: Frank Wilson and Scott McPherson

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Chairman Brant Giere

Brecksville Bicentennial Standing Committees and Sub-Committees were advised to call Ted Lux at 440-526-2499 or Bonnie Longo at 440-526-2601 to schedule Bicentennial Committee meetings at the Human Services Center or Community Center. Each committee should have its own Secretary and minutes of all meetings should be submitted to Secretary Committee Co-Chair Mary Scullin.

A poll was taken and Wednesday evenings appear to be a good time for the majority of those present to attend Committee of the Whole meetings.

Contact information for Executive Committee Co-Chair Frank DeWolf:

Home Phone: 440-526-7312

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Executive Committee Co-Chair DeWolf reminded everyone to spread the word that many more volunteers are needed to help with the Brecksville Bicentennial. The Mayor said that the City has been advertising its 2011 Bicentennial and would continue to do so.

Mayor Hruby concluded the meeting by asking Brecksville Bicentennial Standing Committees and Sub-committees to put together a plan and schedule of various projects and events as soon as possible so that a budget and logistics can be established. The City intends to publish a calendar of 2011 Brecksville Bicentennial events next spring.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

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