

Co-Chairs – 350th Committee

Jonathan Dudley
Kevin Rudden



Treasurer – Brothers of the Brush

Tom Fichtner

Mendon Board of Selectmen

Richard Schofield - Chair
Christopher Burke
Mark Reil

General Committee Members:

Dan Byer - Secretary
AJ Byrne
Theresa Clifton
Sharon Cutler
Sorcha DeFrancesco
Dick Ferrucci
Jeanne Fichtner
Kathleen Sedgeley Nicholson
Alan Tetreault
Wayne Wagner

MENDON'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

Sponsored by:

THE MENDHAM BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH

mendonma.gov/350

20 Main St, Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

mendon350@mendonma.gov

Meeting Date: 10/18/2016

Meeting Location: Old Taft Library, 18 Main St. Mendon, MA

Minutes Approved: 11/28/2016

Committee Members Present: Dan Byer, Theresa Clifton, Sharon Cutler, Jonathan Dudley, Jeanne Fichtner, Dick Ferrucci, Kathleen Sedgeley-Nicholson, Sorcha DeFrancesco, Kevin Rudden

Absent: AJ Byrne, Alan Tetreault, Wayne Wagner

Others: Willem Angenant, Anne Dudley, Amy Fahey, Joyce Firth, Sally Riendeau, Tom Fichtner.

Jon called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Dan did not send out the correct minutes, so the committee passed over this item.

The committee discussed the Trivia Night. Amy explained the details. Due to a conflict with the location the date will have to be changed to 11/4. The cost will be \$10 per participant and teams will be up to 8. She can set up online payments. The committee discussed and Amy will use her info and transfer the funds back to the Brothers after the event. The committee also discussed food. For around \$300 we can get snack food but it will cost more money for actual food. After some discussion the committee agreed to fund the trivia night up to \$500. Dan will work with Amy to advertise the event.

Willem made a motion to fund up to \$500 for the 11/4 Trivia Night, Tom seconded and all approved.

The committee discussed signage for events. Bruce Clifton is working on an interchangeable sign to be used at the 4-corners. Tom has agreed to post events on the Founder's Park sign.

Joyce presented the Mother Mendon Sings Chorus event proposal. **(Exhibit A)** The event will feature a chorus made up of members from the individual 9 towns that once made up "Mother Mendon". In addition there will be a children's chorus and we will look to commission a new choral work to be premiered at the concert. Dan has already applied for Cultural Commission funding (\$2,000 from Mendon and \$300 each from the other 8 towns (Upton, Milford, Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Hopedale)) The total cost for the event is \$4,600 with most, if not all of that expected back from ticket sales and cultural grants. Joyce explained the grants are reimbursement grants so we will have to provide the funds upfront. The committee discussed and was in favor. Kevin stated he was very impressed with the proposal as it was one of the most complete ones we have received. Joyce also explained that they have located a conductor for the concert, Simeon Morrow and an accompanist, Wayne Ward. We will need to sign contracts with them. Simeon is asking for \$2,000, \$666 to be paid very shortly when the program is complete and Wayne is asking for \$600. Dan requested time to review the contracts and suggested voting to authorize Kevin and Jon to sign. All agreed.

Terry asked about a contingency plan if there is an issue with the conductor as he is travelling. Joyce explained that Wayne could also conduct if needed.

Dick made a motion to approve the event, authorize \$4,600 in funding, and authorize Jon and Kevin to sign the contracts with the conductor and accompanist pending their review. Jon seconded and all approved.

The committee discussed the upcoming Dinner Dance. Kathleen explained there are no tickets left. Dick reviewed the plans for set up of the jail. The committee discussed plans for the raffles and the quilt. The quilt is complete and will be on display. Kevin will request an article in the Crier and send in the pictures right after the event to meet their deadline.

Dick reviewed the Country Fair. He stated that everyone liked the 350th set up and there was a lot of positive activity. He also reminded everyone that we need the pumpkin raffle slips back as the drawing is the end of the week.

Tom presented the financial report (**Exhibit B**).

The merchandise committee stated the Mendon Greenhouse is willing to sell merchandise. Jeanne stated there are only 14 bracelets left plus 20 at the banks. The committee discussed orders. Jon explained the committee initially didn't want to get involved with taking orders but if the merchandise committee feels they can handle it, he is fine with it. Jon is also looking into options for tote bags and athletic shirts. Dan shared the ornament samples. The committee discussed and feels that we are not interested at this time especially since we still have town hall ornaments.

The committee discussed the budget. Dick is still getting info on the banks and the block party. Kevin reminded the committee the cost for the Shriners will be \$1,200. Dan asked about funding for the school bands. Dick suggested reaching out to each school to get more info before we commit anything. Dan will pull together a list of the upcoming events and their budgets for review at the next meeting.

The committee discussed the film screening at the drive in on the 20th. Kathleen suggested we try and promote it more.

Chuck Noel came at 8:30 to share the finished drawing of downtown Mendon. The committee discussed the title and how to number them. The committee was very happy with the final drawing.

Dan gave a quick update on the Trail Walk events. Both were well attended with close to 40 people at both walks. There are a few more planned for the spring.

Dan stated there is no update on the July sports events at this time.

The committee discussed the next meeting date. It will be 11/28.

Jon shared the sign-up for the Polar Plunge. He asked for help promoting it.

The committee discussed the Santa Parade. We need people for the float for our parade and the Uxbridge one. The Parade committee will meet on 11/1 at 7 at the Steakhouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

10/18/2016
Exhibit B
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Brothers' 350th Anniversary Account

As of the 350th Anniversary meeting on 09.26.16, working balance was

\$8,958.96

Financial Adjustments:

Revenue Side:

Deposit - 10.07.16	Cash - \$3,455.00 / Checks - \$4,460.00		
	- Ham & Bean Supper proceeds	\$1,795.00	
	- Anniversary Buttons	\$90.00	
	- Store Sales (10.01.16)	\$220.00	
	- Milford National - Merchandise Sales	\$430.00	
	- Charles River Bank - Merchandise Sales	\$165.00	
	- Costume Ball (10.29.16) Ticket Sales	\$5,265.00	
			\$7,915.00
Deposit - 10.11.16	Square		
			\$165.32
Deposit - 10.11.16	Cash - \$1,330.00 / Checks - \$2,590.00		
	- Costume Ball (10.29.16) Ticket Sales	\$3,150.00	
	- Country Fair (10.08.16) - Merch. Sales	\$770.00	
			\$3,920.00
Deposit - 10.18.16	Cash - \$715.00 / Checks - \$80.00		
	- Country Fair (10.08.16) Raffle proceeds	\$387.00	
	- Country Fair (10.08.16) Jail proceeds	\$408.00	
			\$795.00

Expenditure Side:

Check #115 - Brian Dudley	Reimbursement for cake purchase for Ham & Bean Supper	\$50.63
Check #116 - Kevin Rudden	Reimbursement for purchase of 214 mugs	\$1,507.41
Check #117 - Xpression Prints, Inc.	Invoice #16477 - Shaving Permit Buttons	\$194.30
Check #118 - Kathleen Nicholson	Reimbursement for printing of cards/posters for costume ball	\$335.62
Check #119 - Alan Tetreault	Reimbursement for sign lettering/paints for Ham & Bean	\$69.37
Check #120 - Xpression Prints, Inc.	Invoice #16529 - merchandise order (rush) for Country Fair	\$716.79
Check #121 - iolabs	deposit for 100 - 11" x 14" prints	\$440.00

Current working balance is

\$18,440.16

“Mother Mendon Sings”
Mendon 350th Anniversary Celebration
PROPOSAL 10/2/2016

In 2017, the town of Mendon will celebrate its 350th Anniversary. The Mendon Cultural Council began to pursue the idea of organizing a choral event that would bring together the nine towns of: Mendon, Bellingham, Upton, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Milford, Blackstone, Hopedale and Millville, which were the original municipality of Mendon in 1667, for a unique, historic, anniversary concert: Hence the term “Mother Mendon”.

Due to fundraising constraints upon the Cultural Council as a State and Town entity, the Mendon 350th Anniversary Committee has agreed to assume this project with the local Cultural Council (LCC) providing the information it has already gathered for grant writing purposes and, organizing at least a part of the event. A sub-committee will assist in organizing the second half of the event. The Mendham Brothers of the Brush have agreed to provide the financial backing envisioning a potential profit margin for this project.

A choral director, as well as an accompanist for this unique performance, have already been interviewed and offered their positions, and will assume responsibilities as outlined in the online job post, attached to this document, upon the approval of the 350th committee and the signing of a contract for their agreed upon salary.

The vision is to have a two to three hour performance with a 30-40 minute intermission on a Saturday afternoon or evening, or a Sunday late afternoon performance at the Valley Chapel in Uxbridge. This facility holds 900 in the audience area, and 175 (with risers) on the stage area. It has an excellent sound and lighting board, comfortable seating, ample parking for a sell-out performance, handicapped accessibility, a kitchen and concession area, multiple rest rooms and classrooms for “holding” choral members until the performance begins. The first half of the performance would feature the adult chorus of no more than 175, an accompanist on the piano and the Conductor/Director. The chorus would be comprised of vocalists from the 9 towns that made up the original “Mother Mendon” who have answered a call for singers, and paid a nominal membership fee. Each choir member will wear a boutonniere with a specific color to indicate which town they represent. In this way, the audience has a visual of the blending of these municipalities into one choral body. The concert program would consist of 6-7 choral pieces that span a timeline from 1667 to the present with a narrator introducing each piece with a bit of our Mendon history as it related to that time period. Choir members will have learned the music from online learning tracks pre recorded by the Director. Although these tracks will be made available online for choral members to use to become familiar with the pieces, 2-3 rehearsals where singers must come to the venue for a formal, physical rehearsal with the conductor, accompanist, and sound/lighting techs will be needed.

The second half of the program is still being discussed, however, a workable vision would be to open the half with "thank you's" and acknowledgements of significant sponsors to this event. This may be followed by narration with more history and some audience participation in a sing-a-long of familiar pieces that relate to our theme,(ie: Turkey In The Straw was a popular song in the late 1660's). The conclusion of the program, or Grande Finale event would be a children's chorus made up of 8-10 school aged children from each of the 9 associated towns (approx. 70-90 voices) . They would perform one song (or more with one being...): An original children's choral piece to commemorate the Town of Mendon's 350th Anniversary written by a Berklee College of Music student specifically for this event. Perhaps, just prior to this, that Berklee student would be present at the concert and receive a cash award by a possible sponsor who donated the cash award, or the Cultural Council/350th Committee/Brothers, for having this piece selected for debut at our concert.

The intermission between both performances is an open opportunity for fund raising for the 350th Committee and the Mendham Brothers of the Brush. The Valley Chapel has a functioning kitchen and concession area. There is a lobby area for sales of all kinds.

Even though the vision is for a more "classy" event, which blends itself well with the venue, the admission cost can be kept to a minimum of \$5.00-\$6.00, and with membership fees for the adult choir at perhaps \$10.00, and \$5.00 for the children's choir.

The intent of this proposed event is to create a unique and historical event, which to current knowledge, has not been done in the past. The songs selected by the Director will move the audience through a historical timeline bringing us from Mendon 1667 to Mendon of the present. The debut of an original choral piece written specifically for this town will be "our " song" and may be heard in our schools and town celebrations for many years to come. This concert embodies, for the first time in 350 years, the concept of the original "Mother Mendon-" Coming together as one voice: all eight towns, on one stage, singing together in celebration of our shared heritage, which to many in these surrounding towns, has long since been forgotten.n

What is :

Dates: Saturday, March 25, 2016 or Sunday March 26, 2017 -TBD

Time: Performance and rehearsals TBD

Director: Mr. Simeon Morrow (resume and credential attached)

The choral director's responsibilities are outlined in the online job posting attached. Our candidate has been interviewed and offered the position pending the approval of the 350th Committee/Brothers of the Brush. Mr. Morrow has requested his salary be paid out in increments of 1/3, with the final 1/3 payment due after the performance.

Accompanist: Mr. Wayne Ward (Resume furnished upon request.)

Cultural Council Organizer: Joyce Firth

Venue: The Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Road, Uxbridge, MA

Towns Included: Mendon, Bellingham, Upton, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Milford, Blackstone, Hopedale and Millville

*Contact information an all the above, attached.

What could be: Proposed ideas:

-A children's chorus from the 9 original Mendon towns could be organized for the second half of the program.

The chorus as outlined, realistically cannot learn more than 6-7 concert ready pieces in the time limit we have. Therefore, the adult chorus can only be ½ of a 2 hour (with intermission) program.

-Narration with each choral piece of an historical time line by a "significant" town personality.

-The debut of an original choral piece written exclusively for the Mendon 350th event by a Berklee student.

-Concessions at intermission.

-Raffle baskets, 50/50 tickets, donation jars, anniversary items available for sale.

-Professional recording w/CD's , DVDs of the concert sold

-Advertisement in the written concert program

-Sponsors

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES-CASH OUT**Salaries:**

Director- \$2000.00

The Director lives in Chicago, IL. He has flown here for the interview and will need to return for the performance. Nearly ½ of this salary is flight cost. What remains is a reasonable salary for seeing this program through to fruition.

Accompanist \$600.00

? Other musicians Dan Byer has offered to use his connections to help us locate musicians who may donate their time, if needed.

Sub total \$2600.00

Space/Venue

We anticipate using the facility 3 times: 2 rehearsals and the date of the performance. There is also a janitorial fee and Sound tech fee associated with this facility.

\$50/day x 3 days \$150.00

Janitorial fee \$20/hr \$200.00

Sound tech \$25/hr \$200.00

Sub total \$550.00

Concert Supplies

Sheet music for 180 participants \$100.00*

There are a number of free sources for sheet music, and many may be copyright free. Every effort will be made to locate and use these, however, it will be difficult to find 180 copies of any one piece.

Printed Concert program \$ 200.00

With 200 names to print and If selling ad space, this could end up a 12 page/ 3 sheet program. This might be printed free through town sources. The price quoted is for town copier paper and ink reimbursement.

Other copier printed materials \$50.00

Instructions/signup/contact info For participants. Flyers/posters

Event Tickets \$200.00

There may be 900 tickets sold-These must be professionally printed.

Boutonniere/scarf concert dress \$1200.00 *

A different color assigned for each town so that the audience can see the towns represented. Choral members may assume this cost with entrance fee.

Concert binders \$200.00*

May be donated, or members purchase own.

Sub Total \$ 450.00
(With * \$1950.00)

Other Misc Expenses

Cash award \$500-\$1000

For Berklee student to compose an original Mendon 350th Anniversary choral piece.
Suggest finding a sponsor for this.

Professional recording of the concert \$?

May be done free by local cable access, or the high school.

CD's/DVD's for recording \$?

Donated?

Refreshments/Concession

Donated?

Advertising

Donated?

Raffle?

350th items for sale

Sub Total \$1000

* Expenses that may be covered by other sources

TOTAL EXPENSES: Cash out \$4,600.00

ANTICIPATED CREDITS-CASH IN

MA Cultural Council Grant/Mendon	\$2000.00
MA Cultural Council Grants/ Bellingham, Upton, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Milford, Blackstone, Hopedale and Millville	\$2400.00
Ticket sales (900 x \$5.00)	\$4500.00
Choral member fee (175x \$10.00)	1750.00
TOTAL Credits: Cash in	\$10,650.00

Other possible credits/INCOME

Concession
Advertising in concert program
Raffle, 50/50, 350th items sales
CD/DVD sales

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

As written and proposed, MA Cultural Council grants are intended to provide almost all of the funding needed to support this program. As you may know, MA Cultural Council grants work as reimbursement grants- Monies are paid out when requested *after* the event has occurred. The organizers of this event will need operating cash of approximately \$4,600.00 from some source, as the program progresses, in order to pay deposits, purchase necessary supplies/materials, and pay out incremental salaries.

The proposal expense figures have been anticipated high, however the ticket sales, membership fees, and MA CC grant awards have also been estimated at the maximum possible participation. None-the-less, there appears to be a potential for significant profit even with lesser than maximum participation, particularly if the concession and other fundraising activities are incorporated at the intermission portion of the event.

It is important to understand that having an original score written by a Berklee student specifically for the 350th anniversary of Mendon is a noteworthy and historic event well deserving of a cash award. I strongly advise the Committee to support this. It is a prime opportunity for some positive press coverage which will help advertise the event. I would not be surprised if there were a sponsor who wishes to have their name associated with this historical document for posterity. This would eliminate that expense from our operating costs.

The Mendon Cultural Council was very disappointed that we were not able to sponsor this event. It has been on our "back burner" for many months now. We are so pleased that the 350th Anniversary committee, with the sponsorship of the Mendham Brothers of the Brush, have been able to see the historic value of a presentation of this nature, and have agreed to support the endeavor both physically and financially. With the energy, manpower and support of the Anniversary Committee, The Mendham Brothers of the Brush, The Mendon Cultural Council, along with the enthusiastic participation of Mendon and it's 8 other original municipalities, I envision "Mother Mendon Sings" as one of the highlights of this Mendon 350th Anniversary Celebratory year.

Submitted by:

Joyce Firth, Chair
Mendon Cultural Council

Att:

Online posting job description
MMS contact info
Mr.Morrow resume