Town of Sturbridge

*Special Events Committee*

**Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present**:   
Lisa Beaudin, Chair   
Kerry Carey

Mary Dowling (Arrived 6pm)

John Rice

**Absent:**

Sandra Nasto

**Staff Present**:

Terry Masterson, Economic Development/Tourism Coordinator

**Meeting Open**

Lisa Beaudin opened the meeting at 5:35 and welcomed everyone.

**Minutes**

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes for June 27, 2023

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| **Motion** | **To Accept Minutes for June 27, 2023** |
| Moved and Seconded: | BY: K Carey Second: M Dowling |
| Vote: | YES: Nasto, Carey, Rice, Beaudin |
| Outcome:: | Approved 4-0 |

**SEC Budget FY 2024**

There was general discussion and consensus on the FY24 SEC Budget based on a budget memo shared at the meeting and discussions at the June meeting with Robin Grimm and Barbara Barry. . .

**Review of Tree.1 Run for Fun Race**

John briefed the committee on the Tree.1 Run. He offered the following comments:

1. The race was over by 10:30AM
2. All went well
3. The race was very well organized by the Festival of Trees staff and volunteers.
4. Vendors seemed well engaged with the race attendees
5. The Sawdust Coffee House also was well patronized.
6. Attendees offered much positive feedback.
7. John confirmed that the only bill for SEC to underwrite was the Slim’s Porto San bill.
8. Over $7,000 was raised from the race.

**Conflict of Interest Training**

Kerry reported that she had taken the on-line course. Sandra will be pursuing taking the course at Town Hall.

**Potential Event: Bake Off Winter 2024**

There was general conversation about the necessary steps needed to research the viability of a Bake Off event this Winter. It was agreed to contact the Girl Scouts first to ascertain their level of interest. John noted that TA Grimm suggested drafting a tentative budget.

**Home of the Brave Race (HOTB)**

There was discussion of what advance steps were necessary for the upcoming November 11th HOTB Race. Kerry asked if there were any other events on this day. Terry agreed to start alerting important organizational participants about the event and their roles on this day.

**HOTB Donations Policy**

There was specific conversation about how to handle revenues and donations for the HOTB race. There was a question about whether donations should be disbursed in the short term or husbanded for serious veteran needs when they arise. Kerry suggested a dinner reception for veterans. Mary suggested that if there were no immediate demands for HOTB race proceeds then those charitable dollars might go to the regional veteran’s s assistance agencies in Worcester such Project New Hope Veteran’s Inc.

**Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the SEC would be Tuesday, August 21, 2023 at 5:30PM.

**Adjournment**

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| **Motion:** | **To Adjourn. At 6:42 pm** |
|  | BY: L Beaudin SECOND: J Rice |
| Vote Record: | Yes: Beaudin, Carey, Dowling, Rice |
| Outcome: | Approved 4-0 |