Members Present-Alex Danka, Fred Stanek, John Stelma, Beverly Kennedy, Preet Singh, Lucy McConologue, Robert Lang, Stephanie Dank

Members Absent-none

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm

Pledge of Allegiance recited. A moment of silence was observed to honor Karen Stanek who was a member of the Parade Committee until the time of her passing.

Approval of Minutes-Motion was made to approve minutes from last meeting by Lucy McConologue, seconded by Preet Singh.

Public Comment-none

New Business-Motion was made to hold an election of officers and to establish a vice chair position in addition to the positions of Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. Motion was made by Fred Stanek and seconded by Preet Singh. Newly elected officers are as follows: Chairman-Alex Danka, Vice Chairperson-Lucy McConologue, Treasurer-Stephanie Dankal (Christmas Parade), Preet Singh (Memorial Day), Secretary-John Stelma. Motion also made to elect a chair pro tem in case neither chair nor vice chair is at a future meeting.

Bob Lang stepped down from his position of Chairman of the Christmas Parade a position he has held since 1971.

Memorial Day solicitations will be assembled and mailed on Monday. It was noted that we are in need of envelopes and labels. Alex will put through the mailing machine at Town Hall.

Preet announced that all band contracts have been signed.

Treasurer’s report was read. It was reported that the Memorial Day balance was $16,871.00 with checking balance of $3769 and a savings balance of $13101. John to write a letter to the town to receive approved funds from the town in the amount of $3500.

It was announced that the 2019 Memorial Day Parade will be held on May 26, 2019. Lineup will start at French Memorial Park at 10:30 am. The Parade will start at 11:00 am. Pre-parade activities at the reviewing stand will be from 10:30 am to 11:00 am.

Other items of business discussed include-Mike Casey will take care of finding the speaker for the parade, Fred Stanek will be the Master of Ceremonies for the parade. Police and Tom Eighmie will need to be contacted. Fred will contact Harvey Catlin (Middle School) to set up the Essay Contest. Beverly
Kennedy will mail invitations to town organizations to participate in the line of march. Those groups will include scouts, baseball teams, dignitaries, and school groups.

An announcement will be in the Town's Facebook page to invite people and groups to march in the parade. Additional correspondence will be an email to Superintendent Mike Wilson to invite members of the school community to participate in the parade. Herbie the Love Bug has also been confirmed to be in the parade.

There will be a special meeting the week prior to the parade to set up the line of march.

It was announced that there is a need to change the dates on all of the signs and banners announcing the parade to the date of this year's parade. Alex Danka stated that we need to look into other sign and banner companies including local shops Grand Concepts and Flach Signs to get a better price on signs and trophies. We are also in need of new red, white, and blue skirting for the reviewing stand.

Additional items needing follow up includes the selection of a Grand Marshall for the parade, awards for participants for the parade, contacting Daddio's and other sources for cars that are needed to be in the parade for parade participants. The shuttle bus from the end of the parade route to the beginning of the parade route needs to be reinstated.

Food related items needing to be set up included the breakfast food to be set up in Jimmies before the parade and catering at the community center for people who worked on the parade that will be served at the conclusion of the parade.

John will contact the pastor from Pearl Street Methodist church for the invocation prior to the parade as well as Patti to sing the Star Spangle Banner prior to the start of the parade. John will also contact East Side Greenhouse for the Memorial wreaths and appreciation bouquets which are given to special guests or placed at the Broad Street Park.

Preet will be following up with the Sikh community regarding the handing out of ice cream along the parade route. He is estimating the number to be handed out at 10,000 to 12,000.

Old Business-Bob Lang handed out for review and future use the report on the 2018 Christmas Parade as well as guidelines for the planning of the parade and list of volunteers. He stated that at the present time they have pledges for approximately $7500 for the 2019 Christmas Parade.

The next meeting of the Parade Committee will be held on the second Thursday in April (April 11) at 7 pm in the Community Center 29 Pine Street. The regular scheduled monthly meeting for the month of May will also be held on the second Thursday of that month (May 9) at a location to be announced. The final meeting for the 2019 Memorial Day Parade will be the week prior to the parade with the date, time, and location to be announced.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stelma
Baseball teams, dignitaries, and school groups.

An announcement will be in the Town’s facebook page to invite people and groups to march in the parade. Additional correspondence will be an email to Superintendent Mike Wilson to invite members of the school committee to participate in the parade. Herbie the Love Bug will be in the parade as well.

There will be a special meeting a week prior to the parade to set up the line of March.

It was announced that there is a need to change the dates on all of the signs and banners announcing the parade. Alex stated that we need to look into other sign and banner companies including local shops Grand Concepts and Flach signs. We are also in need of new red, white and blue skirting for the reviewing stand.