

Minutes from April 5, 2021 Warner Fall Foliage Festival meeting

Attending: Ray Martin, Shawn Coe, Beth Lukaitis, Deb Nasheim, Nancy Ladd, Kristen Riley, Lauren Horner, Kathi

Item: Tentatively decided to plan for a full in-person festival for 2021 with the safety and wellbeing of the community as a primary concern; If not possible due to Covid issues, there are contingencies for another virtual Festival (or some combination). Final decision pending.

Follow up: Beth has researched and provided multiple sources of information regarding guidance from the Governor, CDC, WHO, what other fairs and festivals do. (*See “Further Information” at the end of Minutes for websites)

Item: Availability of amusement rides and staff to run them.

Follow up: Ray spoke to Scott Miller (Miller Amusements) who has already obtained his traditional staff for the festival season and states the availability of rides will depend on whether or not there are enough jobs booked for the season. Thus far, the “Big” Fairs are currently planning on running this year so unless that changes, he’s ready to do it.

(Monitoring the Festival tab @NHCovidGuidlines website)

Item: Can we get music this year?

Follow up: Ben is not present so we will revisit this next time.

Item: WFFF applied to [NH Fairs Association](#)

Followup: Ray is awaiting the invoice.

Item: How to enforce mask compliance and social distancing protocol? Including during the scheduled Saturday 5K.

Follow up: Possibly going to use 2 busses to allow for social distancing.

Having the 5K race participants begin with masks on and also having staggered start times to allow room between running groups. The race organization is prepared to do so.

Clear language on all advertising that Covid protocols are mandatory (unless the NH State guidelines or Executive orders alter otherwise.) The committee is concerned about having volunteers attempt to enforce these rules for safety reasons. Hoping that the prior fairs set an example.

Item: Are food vendors available? Should Food vendors be included in the fair?

Follow up: We can contact previous vendors to see who is available. Shawn was told that food vendors follow Scott Miller so we would likely have that option. Ray states The Bates' Lobster and Chicken BBQ is expecting to participate. Kristen suggested no food vendors but the subject was not debated. No final decision made yet.

Item: Will brochures or mailers be used this year?

Follow Up: The mailers reached many more people in several surrounding towns as advertisement of the fair but had less advertising space. Beth reminds that attendees count on the brochures to act as maps and directions for events' locations and times, which vendors/crafters/ are where, parking, etc. Decision to be made N.L.T. end of July.

The option of also posting brochure info Online at the Website so people can pull it up on their phones was brought up to be discussed with Darryl Parker.

Item: Sponsors to be contacted for brochure and/or mailer.

Follow up: Hoping to get at least 5-6 major sponsors to contribute before the printers deadline in late July. Ray feels that we have time

Item: Parking at lot on Depot Street and Nichol's Field?

Follow up: The Sparkling Water business on Depot st. has closed but the building not yet sold. Ray believes that parking will still be available to the festival. The field by Split Rock is available.

Item: Road closure permit for Rt 103 needs to be submitted, obtained

Follow up: The highway department is not expected to provide this until “the last minute”.

Item: List of crafters/vendors needed for contacting with updated applications.

Follow up: Kim has received the list and is already reaching out. Many from last year already have deposits on file and are expecting to participate. Kristen has posted the updated vendor application with costs on the website already. 30 already signed up. Numbers will be limited on space available.

Item: PayPal option planned on being provided for retail purchases.

Follow Up: Email sent to Darryl P. in this regard.

Item: Parade?

Follow up: Not discussed at this meeting but Ray will get with Jen C. about it.

Item: WFFF tee-shirt design.

____ Follow up: Hazel knows the Brightest fall colors are preferred and she is all set to create them.

Item: Beth moves to approve minutes from last months meeting.

Follow up: Seconded and approved unanimously .

****May 3rd will be the next meeting; Right after the town meeting.***

Conclusion: The WFFF’s main goal is to *keep the festival and its tradition alive*. Even if less money is raised from restrictions that are placed because it is in the best interests of our community.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

<https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>

<https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt381/files/files/inline-documents/guidance-universal.pdf>

<https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt381/files/inline-documents/sonh/guidance-fairs-festivals.pdf>

All of the guidance on re-opening can be found here: [NH Economy : Welcome](#)

Outdoor events where people may be seated for the events: [Microsoft Word - Draft - Large Outdoor venues \(nheconomy.com\)](#)

Performing arts venues: [Performing-Arts-Venues-DRAFT-3-9-21.pdf \(nheconomy.com\)](#)

Amusement park guidance: [Microsoft Word - Amusement Park Final Draft \(nheconomy.com\)](#)

Fair guidance hasn't been updated since June:
[ArtsSector-FestivalsandFairs.pdf \(nheconomy.com\)](#)

Governor's orders can be found here: [Welcome | NH Covid-19 Response](#)

Note: need to have frequent cleaning (porta potties???), hand sanitizer, and ask the standard health questions of volunteers, staff and attendees
Mask order currently in effect until April 16th.