



George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee Alexandria, Virginia

Monday, April 18, 2022

7:00 PM

George Washington Masonic National Memorial
101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA, 22301

Attendance:

- In attendance: Edgar Bates, Kristen Eastlick, Sue Johnson, Carol Myers, Marshall Smith, Tyler Vanice,
- Excused: Claire Bennet; Jeanne Jacob, Jennifer Warren
- Unexcused: Chris Jones, Jason Reardon, Lovie Patish, Sally Graham, Robert Garbacz, Rich Vargus,
- City Staff: Michele Longo (Office of Historic Alexandria)

1. Tyler called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. No quorum for review of minutes from February or March.
3. Officer and Committee Reports

Officers will be elected once have quorum. Tyler and Sue recommended to be co-chairs. Carol is recommended as secretary.

4. New Business

- a) Election of Officers
- b) A Man and His River Fundraiser—This walking tour will take place on Saturday, May 21. It is approximately 3.5 miles long. Ticket price will be determined by the end of the week so marketing can begin. Maximum number of tickets is 25 people.
- c) Event Planning for 2023—Parade 2023 is February 20. Tyler has been working with the National Masonic Memorial on their 100th anniversary of the cornerstone event of the National Masonic Memorial, which could bring additional masonic lodges to the area to march in the parade. He is working with the City to reroute the parade along King Street and expand the gathering area for the parade (because we could have a lot more parade units). Tyler anticipates a number of Masonic lodges to march in the parade, and the registration will be adjusted capture lodge numbers and secretary

Next Meeting May 16th, 2022, at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

names. We also need to ask if the organization will have a float. Parade registration will need to open in May to accommodate this larger event. This year had approximately 1400-1500 parade participants with roughly 50 parade units, not including dignitaries, but this may double for 2023. With an anticipated increase in numbers, we will be providing info for local parking garages instead of attempting to reserve private parking lots.

Note for next year—it will be important to spread the word thoroughly about parade registration. Edgar noted a few groups asked afterwards how they could get into the parade in the future.

Sue will review the sponsorship packet prior to the next meeting. We are more likely to get larger donations if we begin reaching out now.

At the next meeting, the committee can consider a fee for parade unit registrations. We could provide exceptions for groups that need it, but many can likely afford to pay the \$50 fee.

Marshall noted that, for the reenactment permits, the fire permit required the committee to pay the fee when the other permitting fees were waived. Tyler noted that the committee should be able to raise the necessary funds for the reenactment to take place on Sunday, February 19, 2023.

- d) Bylaws Adoption—Tyler will work with Michele, Sue, and Jeanne to draft bylaws for presentation at the next meeting.
- e) Constant Contact—Sue has been loading emails from the parade into Constant Contact. Then we can send a monthly email easily to share info about events, etc. Now is also a good time to rebuild the website, before launching everything. Tyler will look around for someone who can help build a new website.

5. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.