

**Town Centennial Committee**  
**MINUTES**  
**February 18, 2019**

The Town Centennial Committee met at 7:15 PM in the Town Hall.

Members present: Bridget Hartman (chair), Barbara Rose, Kathy Strom

January minutes to be reviewed and approved at the March meeting.

Projects/Events in Process

- **Chili Dinner:** Bridget Hartman thanked Julia Bellinger, Ellen Ericson, Lisa Flores, Barbara Rose and Cathy Slesinger for their generous volunteer help at the Chili Dinner. Both the Centennial Time Capsule Exhibit and the Town History Exhibit were on display and enjoyed by the approximately 160-175 residents who attended the Sunday, February 10 gathering. The Centennial cupcakes, Centennial M&Ms and Crispy Gems (vegan M&Ms) proved to be popular additions to the ice cream sundae dessert bar. All 174 cupcakes (both vegan and non-vegan) were gone by the end of the evening. Photographs from the event will be sent to the Town Office for posting on the website.
- **Centennial *Snipits*:** Barbara Rose reported that she is pulling together a Centennial *Snipit* that discusses house construction in the early years of the Town and highlights the distinct architectural styles reflected in these early homes. In particular, Barbara will draw attention to the kit houses of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century which are now celebrating their centennial. The Committee discussed several ideas for the final *Snipit*, but reached no conclusions. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
- **Oral Histories of Town Residents:** Bridget provided follow-up information on Joan Zenzen, the historian recommended by Montgomery History and under consideration for the Oral History Project. She distributed a sample oral history interview performed by Dr. Zenzen as well as the Foreword to a book written by Dr. Zenzen. Edwin C. Bearss, historian emeritus of the National Park Service and author of the Foreword, lauded the efforts of Dr. Zenzen and described her book as a “perceptive and balanced account” of efforts to preserve the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Bridget confirmed that Dr. Zenzen’s fee of \$275 per recording interview hour included preparation and transcription time. For budget purposes, Dr. Zenzen recommended that the cost of an average interview should be based on 1.5 hours or \$343.75 per person. The Committee recommended 12 interviews (a combination of long-time residents, residents who served on the Council and long-time former Town staff) with a budget of \$5,000. Bridget will continue to refine the scope of the project and criteria for selecting those to be interviewed. She will also confer with the Town Manager about next steps.

- **Centennial Reception for the Progressive Dinner:** Cathy Slesinger who was unable to attend the meeting, suggested that the Committee consider working with Ain't Too Proud to Meg, a company that among other things creates fanciful platters of fruit and vegetables and colorful cheese boards. She sent photographs of these whimsical food creations for distribution at the meeting. The Committee enthusiastically recommended that Cathy investigate these options for the reception. Bridget also suggested that the Committee consider creating its own "Grand Vin de Chevy Chase" wine with Centennial bottle labels for the reception and distributed a mock-up. Bridget will explore the ease by which this idea could be implemented.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bridget Hartman

**Next Meeting Update:** March 11, 2019