

**Town Centennial Committee**  
**MINUTES/UPDATES**  
**June 11, 2018**

The Town Centennial Committee met at 7:20 PM in the Town Hall.

Members present: Bridget Hartman (chair), Ellen Ericson, Lisa Flores, Kathy Strom, and Ann Wild (secretary).

Because Committee members did not have a copy of the Minutes/Updates for the May meeting, this document will have to be approved at the next meeting.

Projects/Events in Process

- With the **Centennial Kick-Off Celebration** rescheduled because of torrential rain on its original date of Sunday, June 3, all 10 garden households were able to make the switch to Sunday, June 17. (While the trolley had to be canceled because of heavy early-voting traffic, the Town received a full refund for the service.) Publicity about the switch of dates and the event itself went out through the Town Crier, Weekly Updates, Town Neighbors, and the Town of Chevy Chase Residents Facebook page. In addition, signage reminding residents about the event was placed throughout the Town. So, despite the fact that June 17 was Father's Day and early voting was occurring at the Lawton Center, attendance at both the Garden Tour and the Centennial Reception was high; and, overall, the event was a huge success. As always, the Kick-Off Celebration could not have happened without the strong support of the Town staff.

**Garden Tour (1-4 PM):**

Many hands pitched in on Saturday, June 16, for the **set-up for the Garden Tour and Town Hall exhibits**. Kathy Strom, Bridget Hartman, and Lisa Flores placed a large sign with the map of the participating houses, a white bow, and a hanging basket in front of each garden, along with directional signs leading into the homeowner's backyard. Each house was given 25 copies of the program to hand out (another 25 were available at the Town Hall). Meanwhile, in the Town Hall, Katie Vita set up the **My Town Mural** (children and adults were invited to contribute to the map mural on Sunday from 3 PM and beyond) and the **How the Town Grew** exhibit. Lisa set up the **Chevy Chase on My Mind** exhibit, which she had designed, with assistance from the Chevy Chase Historical Society. In addition, Bridget had arranged to have **house histories in full color** on display, which originated from the *Celebrating Our History: An Architectural Tour of the Town of Chevy Chase* booklet that was published in 2005. The sign listing the **long-time (50 years or more) residents** identified to date, which was provided by Ann Wild, was put on an easel.

Despite the heat on Sunday, a steady stream of residents visited the gardens throughout the afternoon, with some residents lingering after 4 PM. Wicca

Davidson and Lees Hartman volunteered as **photographers** for both the Garden Tour and the Centennial Reception.

**Centennial Reception (4-6 PM):**

Ellen Ericson, Lisa, and Julie Trocchio set out the food and beverages (wine, Prosecco, hors d'oeuvres, and 11 dozen specialty 100th anniversary cookies) for the Centennial Reception scheduled from 4-6 PM. Stephanie Grill arranged the flowers and helped arrange the room, plate the food, and set up the bar area. The reception itself was staffed by Julie Stanish, Julie Trocchio, Ellen, Lisa, Kathy, Bridget, and Ann. Town Mayor Barney Rush offered remarks at the reception, which was very well attended. Those who were there certainly enjoyed the food and were very complimentary about the exhibits.

- The **July Forecast** featured a Centennial Snippet on the Town's first July 4 Parade and Picnic held on July 3, 1993, at the Chevy Chase Elementary School as part of the celebration of the Town's 75th anniversary. Also in the *July Forecast* was a page-long "Centennial Tribute to the Town" from Mayor Barney Rush as well as the timeline for the July 4 events that included the Centennial Cake cutting scheduled for 1 PM.
- In preparation for the **cutting of the Centennial Cakes by long-time Town residents**, Ann Wild followed leads on 40 residents who might potentially fit the bill of continuous residency of 50 years or longer, a number of those having been suggested by residents. A list of 24, ranging from 50-63 resident years, was finalized for July 4. Additions to the list will be made throughout the Centennial year.
- **Centennial Participation in the July 4 Event:** Of the 24 identified **long-time residents**, 17 attended. Bedecked with boutonnieres from Giant, they eagerly participated in cutting the two very large **Centennial Cakes**, each topped with the Centennial logo. Ellen had ordered the cakes (one of red velvet/lemon and the other of chocolate/vanilla) from Creative Cakes of Silver Spring. Helpers with set-up, cake-cutting, boutonnieres, clean-up, and more were Ann, Lisa, Ellen, Bridget, Julia Bellinger, and Cathy Slesinger. Five hundred fans featuring the Centennial logo were offered to the July 4 crowd, who also eagerly enjoyed slices of the delicious cakes. Jay Mallin of Jay Mallin Photos, recommended by Ann, was hired as the photographer.
- The **Lee Dennison Bequest as a sustainable garden** remains a work in progress. Bridget and Kathy continue to work with Irene Lane, Sally Kelly, and Vicky Taplin from the Climate and Environment Committee on proposed locations. Potential sites now include Zimmerman Park, Tarrytown Park, and the Rosemary Triangle. With Zimmerman Park also being considered as the location of a potential dog exercise area, the group is coordinating with the Land Use Committee. At the July 11, 2018, Town Council meeting, the committees will provide an update on their activities for Council discussion and possible next steps.

Reminder: Projects/Events Under Past Consideration by the Committee

The Committee has previously discussed the following possible activities:

- A **Fall Festival** featuring such opportunities as a moon bounce for children.
- The possibility of having **middle school and older children interview long-time Town residents**
- A **Panel Discussion with long-time Town residents** offering their past memories of the Town that could be scheduled in fall 2018
- A possible **3K Run for Town children and adults** as another fall 2018 event
- **Oral histories of long-time residents.** Bridget will investigate what is necessary to carry out this long-term project, including interviewing equipment, script for interviewers, and a transcription service. This project would likely require a request to the Town Council for additional funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Wild

***Next Meeting: Monday, July 9***