**Stoddard 250 Anniversary Committee**

Notes from meeting May 11, 2023

* Thanks to Bob Maden, we are now easy to find on the Town’s website.
* The Program Committee met this past week and recommended a revised tentative schedule (see below) which was approved.
* We then discussed what we may be missing, to cover a wide variety of interests in the town. Ideas suggested were arts projects and making a town quilt either to auction off or for the historical society as a record. We agreed to release the schedule on the website as tentative, and try to solicit feedback as well as volunteer leaders.
* We also want to set up a table at Old Home Days to get comments
* We agreed to march in the Old Home Days parade with our big round logo banners—ideally on the side of a truck-- to promote Celebrate Stoddard 250.
* Jason demonstrated the next version of the website, which the group likes a lot. It will be ready for Town Meeting on May 16, where we will promote our group. (The large round logo was hung behind the front table at Town Meeting.)
* Joyce agreed to maintain names of volunteers and newsletter requests we get through the website. Jason will set up a way to store them.
* Don brought the Stoddard horizontal logo bumper stickers, which we agreed to start selling for $5 each at Town Meeting. These have been donated by Don’s former company, Visual Graphics system.
* We discussed various forms of branded merchandise, such as tee shirts, sweatshirts and caps. Joyce volunteered to ask the company Ceremony of Roses, which produces these items for music tours (and where her daughter is a partner), to design some items, produce samples, and give us pricing, for the next meeting. Kim would like to do challenge coins and mugs. Goal is to begin selling merchandise at Old Home Days 2023. We will need to accept credit cards by then.

Next regular meeting is **June 8** at 6:30 at Town Hall.

**Tentative Timetable of Events**

**Stoddard 250 Anniversary 2024**

*As of 5/9/23*

Jan Need a kickoff, something that appears in the Sentinel. New Year’s Celebration?

Feb Something outdoor, like snowmobiling? Snowshoe hike? Ice fishing derby? Gathering on a lake with bonfire with hot chocolate etc

March Library program

April 19 Historical Society presentation—town history at Town Hall

April 27 or Town cleanup

May 4

Early May First Get to Know Stoddard Hike (begin after mud season but before bugs come out) Do various levels of effort, so more participation and not just fit avid hikers. Tie into Geocache app, which already has Stoddard location [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)

June 5 James Faulkner Elementary School Celebration of Stoddard--school is planning a year long curriculum which they will present to the town on this date

June 21 Historical Society presentation tbd

June 22 or 23 Get to Know Stoddard hike

June 30 Pitcher Mountain Day, hosted by the Faulkner family. Tours of Pitcher Mountain Farm and Butterfield House.

July 11-14 Old Home Days (On steroids). Can all the town organizations staff a table along the parade to tell people what they do? What other activities?

July 20 or 21 Discover Stoddard hike

July 27 Blueberry festival, library book sale, Family History Day (behind Historical Society) which will include games kids played 250 years ago

July/Aug Summer concert series, same time each week. Could include dancing

August 5 Highland Lake Palooza—invite the town, feature Little Big Forest

August 16 Annual meeting Historical Society, on Frechettes lawn, about Granite Lake camps. Active program for the whole family, including camp songs and games

Sept Church event—dinner?

Sept 14 or 15 Get to Know Stoddard hike

Mid October Historical Society leads a Perley hike from Stoddard into Munsonville, ending in a presentation about Perley Swett at his homestead . Others could drive there directly via Sullivan

Sat Nov 2 Grand Finale: Pig Roast at Lakefalls; should include music, dancing

Need to beware of other conflicts: school vacations, dates of annual events for various lakes and other groups, School Board in March, Town meeting, Wyman Tavern brewfest.

It’s a Presidential Election Year- (Tues Nov 5); will be lot of candidate events, canvassing, whatever