

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Mrs. William K. Shears
3⁵1 Commercial Street

Mrs. Phyllis Campbell
434 Commercial Street

Ms. Judith Turtz
14 Center Street

Sister Marie Ahern
20 Court Street

Mr. Joseph C. Ward
Three Gosnold Street

To be appointed by the Selectmen:

Mr. William R. Benson, Chairman (Chamber of Commerce)
27 Watson's Court

Mrs. William J. McNulty (Nautilus Club)
586 Commercial Street

Mrs. Edward Cook (Catholic Daughters of America)
18 Alden Street

Mrs. Justin Avellar (Historic District Study)
240 Bradford Street

Mr. Lawrence Jones
4⁵ Commercial Street

Mrs. Grace Collinson (Ladies Auxiliary of V.F.W.)
Five Washington Avenue

Mr. George D. Bryant (Council on Aging)
4⁵7 Commercial Street

✓ Mr. James P. ^{SOUZA} Sawyer (V.F.W. Post 31⁵2)
One Jerome Road

Mr. John T. Grace (Knights of Columbus)
County Road, North Truro

Mr. Cyril J. Patrick (Provincetown Historical Association)
216 Bradford Street

Mr. Frank Motta, Jr. (Blessing of the Fleet)
Four Mozart Avenue

Mr. George F. Miller, Jr. (Cape Cod Pilgrim Memorial Assn.)
B. H. Dyer, Commercial Street

Mr. John Downey (Lions)
49 Bradford Street

Town Clerk

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS MEETING--10:00 A.M., December 18, 1974

Present: Mrs. Bernise D. Shears, acting Chairman, James P. Souza, John T. Grace, Alice Baker, Frank Motta, Jr., John Downey, Marilyn Downey, George F. Miller, Jr., Gardner R. Benson, Cyril J. Patrick, and Page McMahan, secretary.

Mr. Patrick: Motion that next meeting would be Wed., January 15, at 7:30 P.M. A place for the meeting will be found in Town Hall

Mr. Grace: Seconded the motion
Motion passed Unanimously

Mr. Benson read a memorandum on the next round of matching grants in the state of Massachusetts (copy attached)

The following is the result of a discussion of possible ~~work~~ while Bicentennial and other historical projects for the town of Provincetown:

Blessing of the Fleet

Restoration of the Court Street Cemetary (noted that this would have a tremendous amount of historic value for the town and the state)

Bas Relief repair and lighting

War monuments--plaques

Historical markers--streets and houses

Walking tours (this is already being discussed under the Chamber of Commerce.

Organization of a group of people who would be willing to do a history of the town (ie with senior citizens).

It was noted that the Historic District Commission has been doing some taping, etc.

Mrs. Shears suggested that at the next meeting, we should limit the amount of projects on which to work. She suggested that perhaps there should be one main project, with minor offshoots--ie. The Cemetary restoration as a main project, with offshoots of historical markers and walking tours.

It was mentioned that there would be a meeting of the Truro Bicentennial Commission with state representatives on how to get monies for projects. This meeting will be Friday, December 20, 1974 at 1:00 at the Truro Town Hall. Mr. Grace said that he would definitely be there and

others will try to attend. There will be a report of this meeting at our next meeting on January 15.

Mr. Grace mentioned that a new Executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce will be appointed this evening. He suggests that this person should be on this committee, and perhaps there should be consideration of his becoming chairman.

It was decided that a copy of these minutes and an explanatory letter should be sent to representatives of the different organizations, committees, and associations that would probably be interested in the purpose of this committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Bicentennial Committee Minutes--January 15, 1975

Members present: Mrs. William K. Shears, Mrs. William A. McNulty, Mr. William R. Benson, Mrs. Alice Cook, Mrs. Justin Avellar, Mr. Lawrence Jones, Grace G. Collinson, Mr. George D. Bryant, Mr. Joseph Ward.

As acting Chairman, Mrs. Bernice Shears called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M.

Mrs. Shears stated that the main purpose of this meeting is to elect a permanent chairman and discuss certain possible projects.

It was emphasized that in order to get funds from the State it is necessary to have a specific project or projects, together with matching funds for these projects.

Discussion of the Court Street Cemetary:

Mrs. Avellar mentioned that there must be lengthy and complete descriptions, together with photographs, in order to fund the restoration of the cemetary. It was queried whether the Historic District Study Committe had any funds for restoration. Mrs. Avellar stated that there was no money from the town as of yet; and the first proposed project concerning the cemetary would be fencing it off and cleaning it up. Mr. Benson wondered what the cost would possibly be, but Mrs. Avellar did not know. It was mentioned that there is a group who works specifically on restorations of cemeteries, and perhaps the committee should get in touch with them.

Mr. Benson stated that the most important element in getting funds for any proposed project is the correct completment of the application forms. Miss Pat Harrington, who is on the Legislative Committee, has told Mr. Benson that she will be more than willing to come down and help fill out the forms; in that way it will be more likely for our project or projects to be accepted by the State Committee.

Mrs. Collinson pointed out that the cemetary was cleaned up at the last Centennial celebration in the 1920's and that the oldest grave was pointed out at that time. She also stated that Mr. Flores did make a valiant effort to clean up the cemetary, but no up-keep was done after that.

Mrs. Shears emphasized that we must appoint a chairman.

The committee asked Mr. Benson to accept the chairmanship;

and he stated that he would be delighted.

The Committee was unanimously agreeable with this appointment.

Mrs. Collison stated that the Council of Aging has decided on the following projects for the Bicentennial: Study of human resource, Column; in the ADVOCATE entitled "As We Saw It."

Mr. Jones stated that the project he has been studying is the restoration of the Universalist Church. He stated that the roof was re-done recently by matching funds; the tower needs to be repaired, but the church has no funds at this time; however, he did emphasize the fact that the Restoration Committee has raised and collected \$50,000 for the restoration of the church. Mr. Jones has recently been to Washington to discuss the possibility of matching funds for the Church. Mr. Jones also stated that the Church would make a beautiful Bicentennial Center for the Town. Mr. Benson stated that since the Restoration Committee already has funds and a project in mind, all that need be done is the completion of applications; and he again said that he was sure Miss Harrington would be of great help in this matter.

Mr. Benson noted that for a Bicentennial project such as the restoration of the Cemetary, the committee must ask the town for funds; therefore, there must be an article in the Town Warrant at the April Town Meeting.

Mr. Jones suggested that perhaps the Cemetary could be funded by the America the Beautiful Fund in Washington or the American Association for State and Local History in Nashville. Mrs. Avellar noted the two addresses of these organizations.

It was also suggested that the District Study Commission should get in touch with the Boy Scouts and the High School concerning a volunteer force to clean the cemetary.

Discussion of Trap Shed and Possible Trap Museum:

Mr. Bryant led a discussion of work and research the District Study Commission has been doing on the Trap Shed, which is a part of the Cold Storage property which is now being demolished. The building is 100 yrs. old, and the last trap shed in existence in this area. It is very feasible to apply for a landmark designation on this property, and that is what the committee has been working on. If the shed does get landmark designation, the Coast Guard will have to buy the property, and it

won't be destroyed. The question is whether it can remain on the wharf, or will it have to be moved. If it is moved, that will incur a great expense. The shed is set up as a Trap Shed and would make a perfect location for a trap museum.

The Committee agreed that this would be a very fine project to work on.

Mr. Benson suggest that the committee limit its&lf and energy to these two main projects--the Court Street Cemetary and the Trap Shed Museum. More research must be done concerning costs etc., so the committee can discuss these ideas with Ms. Harrington, when she comes down.

Mrs. McNulty suggested that a walking map of the town, with old buildings and sites designated, should be developed. Mr. Bryant agreed that this would be a very good project for the committee's purposes.

Mr. Benson stated that there would be nothing wrong in requesting monies from the town concerning this project also.

Mr. Jones suggested that the committee should perhaps looks into approved signs that will designate spots of historic interest. Mr. Bryants stated that Mr. Jenson has been working on some very aesthetically pleasing markers.

Mrs. Shears suggested that perhaps Mr. Jenson would enjoy working with the committee.

Mrs. Avellar mentioned that the Historical District Study Commission is trying to discover which homes were originally on Long Point.

Mr. Benson emphasized that individuals should be gathering as much information as possible before the next meeting, when Miss Harrington will be coming down.

Mrs. McNulty showed the committee the official Massachusetts Bicentennial publication, and read the committee the article on Provincetown. The Committee found the article quite objectionable. The Selectmen have asked the committee to write a letter for their signature, strongly objecting to the article.

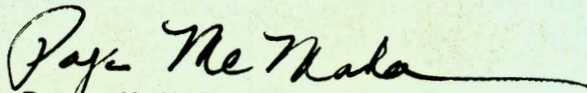
Mrs McNulty and Mrs. Shears agreed to take on this project.

Discussion of ways to get the town more involved in activities related to the Bicentennial:

1. Possibility of a Bicentennial Queen, including scholarship.
2. Get businesses more involved in Blessing of the Fleet
3. Perhaps a 3-day Viking bash
4. Mr. Benson is going to Boston to ask TV stations to do a documentary on Provincetown.
5. Suggest that restaurants serve Revolutionary dinners.
6. Bicentennial trees
7. Ask Mr. Boynton to be involved with the committee.

The next meeting of the Bicentennial Committee will be February 5, 1975, at 7:30 at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Page McMahan
Secretary

January 17, 1975

To: Mr. Benson

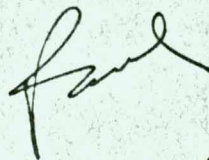
Restoration of Town Records-Bicentennial Committee

In reading over the minutes of the last meeting of the Bicentennial Committee I noticed they were discussing various projects into which they might put their time and money in connection with the Bicentennial. They talked of restoring one of the older Town cemeteries; renovating an old trap shed; setting up walking tours of points of interest, etc.

In connection with all that an idea hit me in reference to our many volumes of old records. The time has come, especially now that we have Sharon Hayden able to donate much time to it, where we should start thinking of finding ways to clean up and restore some of the old and presumably valuable books and records. Maybe this chore might be of interest to the Bicentennial Committee, especially if there are people on the Committee who are book-lovers and so forth. If state funding is to be available for half or a portion of the costs, why not try to use some of it on this project. In talking with these people and attending some of their meetings, I thought you might bring it up to them, if you concur.

However, at any rate, per our discussion this morning, we are going to try to get an "expert" in the field of old records and restoration and care of same, to come here and review our archives for his opinions and cost estimates, etc., etc., etc. Unless we are able to talk specifics as to just what needs to be done and what it is going to cost us, we can't do much of anything.

But, Bicentennial or Town Meeting Article, or whatever, we should start seriously thinking along the lines of getting the job going.



1/17 Sharon contacted Secretary of State's office. Mr. McGlynn called. They are to make arrangements for one of their own people to come down within the next two weeks.

5. Restoration of the Only Half-Cape House in Town and the Creation of a Historic Museum.

Mrs. Collinson noted that steps are being taken to purchase the building without Town funds; however, then the structure would have to be moved to a different location and renovated.

Ms. Harrington emphasized that the Commission could not help with the acquisition of the property, but if the project were accepted by the Commission, it would match funds for the moving and renovation. She also noted that admission could be charged for this museum, in order to make money for maintenance and up-keep.

It was explained by Mrs. Collinson that a Half-Cape House has a door in the center, with a window on either side.

Ms. Harrington also mentioned that it is advisable for any non-profit organization to go through the Town's Bicentennial Committee with their project, whether they get the Committee's blessing or not.

DISCUSSION OF THE COURT STREET CEMETERY:

Mrs. DelDeo: It will be impossible to accomplish the entire project at one time; however, at this time it would probably be wise to try for \$30,000 rather than \$25,000.

Mrs. Collinson: Considerable work was done on the cemetery 15 yrs. ago by Frank Flores.

Mrs. DelDeo: That is probably true, but the peripheral area has never been protected.

Mr. Mendes: Mr. William Rogers is working up estimates for a wall around the cemetery, together with an environmental impact study.

Ms. Harrington pointed out that the State policy if money is left over, is to do anything you can within the project and account for it.

Mrs. Collinson: What about funds to maintain the cemetery after this work is done:

Mrs. DelDeo: This will be included as a Historic District, and then it will be under the auspices of the Historic District Commission after it is created.

Mr. Benson pointed out that the Articles for Town Meeting are due March 8.

Mrs. DelDeo stated that she would be responsible for this and will submit the Article to Mr. Benson. (Town Manager)

Ms. Harrington stated that the state would be willing to pay for professional labor; however, it is against paying for any labor that could be volunteer.

It was mentioned that a volunteer force could be found through the Boy Scouts; jobs are also being created through CETA for the maintenance and upkeep of this cemetery.

LIBRARY:

Mr. Lema mentioned that the Article for the Library has already been submitted to Mr. Gardner Benson.

DISCUSSION OF WHAT INFORMATION HAS TO GO TO THE STATE:

Ms. Harrington: Must send in an application to the State stipulating all aspects of the project, together with a letter from the Town Accountant or private organization stating how much money is in hand. The money must be available before the application is made.

Mrs. Collinson mentioned her book project with the VFW Auxiliary. Ms. Harrington stated that this was a very low priority project.

Mrs. Collinson also stated that the Senior Citizens will be working on articles about the past. Ms. Harrington stated that the Mass. Commission might fund (help) the publishing expenses since it is a project of the elderly.

Mr. Benson and Ms. Harrington pointed out that there will be two more rounds of grants after the April 15th deadline.

Mr. Benson emphasized the fact that the members of the Committee should be thinking about activities which could be advertised as Bicentennial Activities. He also mentioned that it might be a good idea to have a red, white and blue motif in the town, with buntings or flags.

Ms. Harrington pointed out that perhaps the Senior Citizens could work on the buntings and sell them to the Town.

The Mass Bicentennial Commission slide show was then shown for the benefit of those present.

Mr. Benson adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

The next Bicentennial Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, 1975, at 7:30 P.M. in Caucus Hall.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

February 26, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. William Benson, Mrs. Edward Cook, Mrs. Nancy McNulty, Mr. James Souza, Mr. George Bryant, Mrs. Grace Collinson, Sister Marie Ahern.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. John Grace, Mr. Cyril Patrick, Mr. Frank Motta, Mr. George F. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Downey, Mrs. Bernice Shears, Mr. Lawrence Jones, Mr. Joseph C. Ward, Ms. Phyllis Campbell, and Ms. Judith Turtz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Pat Harrington (Mass. Bicentennial Commission), Mrs. Adelaide Kenny (Library Trustees), Mrs. Mary Lewis (Library Trustees), Mrs. Alice Joseph (Librarian), Mr. Joseph Lema (Library Trustees), Mrs. Josephine Del Deo (Historic District Study Commission), Mr. Paul Mendes (Historic District Study Commission),

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 7:50 P.M.

In order to familiarize Ms. Harrington and the other people present with the plans of the Bicentennial Committee, a discussion of the projects ensued:

1. Restoration of Court Street Cemetery \$25,000
2. Renovation and addition to the Public Library which is the fourth oldest library in the country \$250,000

Ms. Harrington emphasized that the Commission has set a limit of matching \$15,000 for each individual project, unless it can be proved that it is of State wide significance.

Mrs. Joseph mentioned that the Library is in the process of applying for the National Register.

Ms. Harrington mentioned that matching funds must be from local sources; anything that the Register wouldn't pay must be matched with local monies, for the Commission to allocated monies.

3. Walking Map, which would include historic plaques along the map route. Estimated cost \$5,000

Ms. Harrington noted that the Commission feels that maps are of a low priority, since they are not of lasting value. If the maps were funded by the Commission, they could not be sold.

4. Trap Museum: Mr. Bryant and Mr. Benson noted that no money is being requested for this project, since there is a very good possibility that this will become a National Historic Site; and if the Coast Guard buys the Cold Storage property, they will have to maintain the shed. This could be a very great asset to the Town, creating jobs and another very worthwhile museum in the Town.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 1975

Present: Bill Benson, George Bryant, James Souza,
Miss Lewis, Mrs. McNulty, Grace Collinson, Mrs. Del Deo.

The Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Benson read a letter from Mr. McColgan of the Mass. Bicentennial Commission, which explained that the article in the state publication was written by Yankee Press. Mr. McColgan requested that the committee write a replacement and he would try to place it in the next edition.

Mrs. McNulty and Grace Collinson said they would work on this.

Grace Collinson pointed out the terrible disrepair of the sidewalk in front of the bas relief and the condition of the bas relief itself. It was decided that a letter should be written to the Town Manager.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that flowers should be planted in celebration of the Bicentennial years.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that the plaque marking the first washing place should be moved down here (center) where it belongs.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that perhaps Sr. Citizens should act as history interpreters, stationed at different strategic locations.

Activities which are definite

Blessing of the Fleet, Old Home Week Dance June 28, 8:00 P.M.

Blessing of the Fleet June 29

Walking Tour 1975

Proposed activities

Feast Day, Saint's Day Parade

Projects: As we Saw It (Column), Glimpses of P-Town, Information Booths with costumed Sr. Citizens, crude structures at strategic place: P-Town Inn, Shuttle Bust Point, or Route 6, Town Hall yard.

Mrs. Collinson also noted that three Provincetown women went whaling with their husbands, and perhaps this should be commemorated.

Mr. Bryant and Mrs. Collinson stated that earlier they had asked the Coast Guard if the Sr. Citizens could have the Light House Keeper's Cottage for a Center. It now belongs to the Seashore. Decided that requests should be re-initiated from both the Council on Aging and the Bicentennial Committee. Letters should be written to Lawrence Hadley.

Discussion of the Old Cemetery. Article is in the Warrant for \$15,000. Three CETA positions have been funded. Both Mr. Benson and Mrs. DelDeo will be following up on the help and guidance with restoration.

It was suggested that Mrs. Francis Euler be invited to our next meeting, which will be held Wednesday, April 2, 1975, at 7:30 P.M. in Caucus Hall.

Paul Cook

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 2, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. William Benson, Mrs. Nancy McNulty, Mrs. Marily J. Downey, Mrs. Bernese Shears.

OTHERS PRESENT: Alice Hopkins, and Isabella Nolton.

Mr. Benson stated that the Article in the Warrant concerning the oldest cemetery would be presented at Town Meeting by Jo DelDeo.

Mr. Benson also stated that the Town Manager has \$5,000 in hand for the repair and cleaning of the bus relief, so the Committee can use this for a base for a request for matching funds.

DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Benson stated that he would like some volunteers to help him ask all the restaurants in town to have a Bicentennial or National special, with the further request to have them decorate in red, white and blue.

Mrs. McNulty stated that it would be good to encourage the planting of red, white and blue flowers.

Mr. Benson stated that the Governor has been written and invited to present our Bicentennial flag and certificate prior to the start of the first night of Town Meeting. There is still no word from the Governor, but Mr. Benson is hopeful. If no one does come from the Governor's office, perhaps a luncheon can be planned and one of the Senators or Representatives can come down for that occasion and present it.

Mr. Benson stated that he hoped to get more participants in the Blessing of the Fleet Parade through the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Benson showed the Committee a water color of different scenes of Provincetown with the heading "Provincetown - Bicentennial", which a young lady in Falmouth did. The Committee can buy this for \$200, then have prints and post cards made and sell them for a profit. The entire group present was enthusiastic about this.

Through discussion the group present decided that a very good activity and money-raiser for this summer would be a Bicentennial Costume Ball, covering a period of the first 100 years of this country's history. It was decided that a date in August would be good. Mr. Benson and Alice Hopkins stated that inserts could be included with the Chamber of Commerce flyers giving

the date and description of this event. Mr. Denson stated that he would check with the Town Manager about a free date in August, so the Committee could get Town Hall for this activity.

It was also decided that a poster contest should be held in each school, and one of the winner's posters should be used as the general poster for the Dance. The posters could probably be displayed in certain store and restaurant windows.

The prizes for a Costume Ball are traditionally paintings so we need to ask artists and Associations for contributions.

It was also decided that perhaps a bicycle decorating contest could be held for the Fourth of July Parade.

The Secretary was requested to inform the Town Manager that \$600 is needed to pay for personal expenses of the Committee and \$2000 is needed for expenses--This will have to be a transfer of funds from the Finance Committee.

The next Bicentennial Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 1975 at 7:30 P.M.

At this meeting the Committee decided that a quorum would be the majority of members present.

The Committee requests that any members who have not been present at recent meetings, but who would be interested on working on some of or one of the activities decided upon should be present at the next meeting since we need you!

July 10, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Benson, Ms. Judy Turtz, Mrs. Nancy McNulty, Mr. Cyril Patrick,

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Dorothy Curran (representing Mrs. Alice Cook), and Mrs. Sal DelDeo.

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M.

Mr. Benson showed the committee a copy of the Bicentennial prints. He stated that they are only being sold at the Chamber of Commerce, and that it would be good if some of the members of the Committee sold them at different locations. Mr. Patrick stated that he would sell them at his store.

Mr. Benson read the committee a letter concerning the Bicentennial Freedom Wagon Train. Provincetown would not be able to have it here until the early fall, and the Committee decided that since that is after the season, it would not be justifiable to have it at that time.

It was decided after lengthy discussion that a statement should be prepared for the Selectmen's meeting on Monday.

The Question of the cost of the work done on the bronze was raised. Ms. Turtz went to Mr. Benson and discovered that the small compact plaque cost \$1,000 and the bas relief work cost \$2500. The Committee does not know whether these bills have been paid.

The letter composed at this meeting and sent to the Selectmen is attached and self-explanatory of the discussion involved in writing this statement.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Provincetown Bicentennial Committee
Town Hall
Provincetown, MA 02657

July 11, 1975

Board of Selectmen
Provincetown, MA 02657

Dear Selectmen:

We, the Bicentennial Committee feel that the action taken by the Town Manager in directing the restoration of the Bas Relief has seriously jeopardized both the restoration project and all future Bicentennial projects in the Town of Provincetown.

As a Committee duly appointed for the purpose of conducting all Bicentennial business, the Bicentennial Committee designed a project for the restoration of the Bas Relief. An application, a copy of which was given to the Town Manager, was submitted to the Massachusetts Bicentennial Committee for that purpose. This application included an implementation schedule which stated clearly that the project was to begin in mid-September.

In order to provide the matching funds for this project, the Selectmen approved the committee's use of \$3,000, appropriated in Article 81 of the 1971 Annual Town Meeting; the commitment of these funds was made by the Selectmen in their letter of April 24, 1975 to the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission. A matching grant of \$3,000 was then awarded on June 4, 1975. The \$6,000 was to be spent by the Provincetown Bicentennial Committee in accordance with grant guidelines and regulations of the State Bicentennial Commission.

Without notifying the Bicentennial Committee, without consulting with any member of the Bicentennial Committee, without seeking the approval of the Committee, the Town Manager began unauthorized work on the Bas Relief. In doing so, he has committed money that he had no right to commit. He has usurped the authority of a duly appointed Town Committee. He has ignored the plans for restoration and the implementation schedule which were

July 11, 1975

designed by the Bicentennial Committee prior to our summer recess. And he has jeopardized this project and all future Bicentennial projects by ignoring the procedural requirements of the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission.

As a further result of the Town Manager's action, the Bas Relief has been defaced. This is the opinion of the Committee and of many members of the community at large. In view of this, the Committee completely disassociates itself from the job undertaken by the Town Manager, and we want it made clear that this is not the project of the Provincetown Bicentennial Committee, funds for which we trust are still available. We seek the Selectmen's assurance that that is so.

Sincerely,

Provincetown Bicentennial Committee

cc: Mr. Gardner R. Benson
Finance Committee

July 30, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Turtz, Nancy McNulty, George Bryant, Grace Collinson, and Cyril Patrick.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gardner R. Benson, Ellen Cook, Paul Christo.

George Bryant explained the letter he was writing concerning the Trap Shed Museum, which is to go into the Environmental Impact Statement.

It was decided that after the committee had a chance to read the letter, it would write a letter of support.

Nancy McNulty was unanimously elected the new Chairman.

It was further decided that at a later date, further re-organization would be necessary.

Miss Turtz stated that it is necessary for the committee to generate more interest.

The Committee decided that the main thing it must discover when Mr. Benson joins the meeting is whether the \$3000 matching funds are still available.

Nancy McNulty stated to Mr. Benson that the Committee's main concern is with the Bas Relief and the obligation to the State--is the \$3,000 there. If it is there, the Committee should proceed as planned, if not the committee should notify the state.

Mr. Benson stated the following:

1. No Town monies have been expended as of this date.
2. Counsel is being asked to investigate certain misrepresentations by Mr. Anselmo.
3. Fruitful discussions have been held with a bronze sculptor of national reputation (Mr. Benson stated he would give the name to the Chairman in confidence, since the sculptor wanted no publicity)
4. Two foundries were contacted as a result of these discussions: Biddy Makky, Indian St, Brookly, 212-eV3-4191; and Modern Art Foundry, John Spring, Queens, Long Island, 212-728-2030.
5. These two foundries concur on the following method to remove the present effect of the Bas Relief:
2% ammonia with water, applied by a lay person with a Steam Jenny. They both disagree violently with Anselm's method of using Acetone.

Mr. Benson asked if there are any comments on the Compact Plaques.

George Bryant asked if the big one cost \$2,500, why did the two small ones cost \$1,000.

Mr. Benson stated he could not answer this question.

Miss Turtz: If no Town money expended, is the Committee's use of the \$3,000 dependent upon your working out your grievances with Anselmo.

Mr. Benson: I would say no. The \$3,000 is there and will be there.

George Bryant: Are you contesting the job Anselmo has done?

Mr. Benson: I'm not going any further than what I have already said.

Nancy McNulty: If plaque is in contention, will it be available to do the job as we outlined it in the past.

Judy Turtz: What will be the state of the relief as of Sept 1975? Will it be in its present state or past state?

Mr. Benson: The point that both foundries made was that a lay person could use the ammonia solution with a steam jenny. It is now the task of the Committee to make sure this is the proper method--I do not want to lead you astray.

George Bryant stated that Gorham should be contacted, since they cast the bronze when it was first done. The Committee agreed.

Judy Turtz: If you are fighting Anselmo, won't you want the Bronze intact.

Mr. Benson: Expert testimony, photos, etc. can be used.

Mr. Benson emphasized the fact that he felt the estimates in the application were under. Most of them are over \$1,000; therefore, must go out for bid and must follow state labor wages.

Nancy McNulty asked if volunteer labor could be used?

Benson: That is possible but you can't pay less than the minimum rate if you are paying--that would be circumventing the law.

Miss Turtz suggested that the Committee meet at a later date to discuss the possibility and low estimates and what should be done.

Nancy McNulty asked if we should oversee the cleaning of the plaque.

Judy Turtz stated that we should check with the three foundries, then discuss it with Mr. Benson and Mr. Veara.

Nancy McNulty stated that she would check with the foundries.

Judy Turtz said she would work with Mr. Benson concerning appropriate bid procedures.

George Bryant questioned the need for a reinforced concrete wall. He will check with Mr. Arnold King and an engineer.

Mr. Benson then read a letter concerning the need for the committee to work on a well-planned project for next summer -- 1976. He stated that his suggestions were just that. He suggested the week of the Blessing of the Fleet and July Fourth. He also stated that perhaps a sub-committee from the committee, joined by a Selectman would be a good measure. He emphasized the fact that it is none too early to start on plans.

Cyril Patrick stated that it is a good possibility that the Committee will continue after 1976, since 1977 is Provincetown's 250th anniversary of incorporation as a Town.

It was noted that perhaps the Washer Woman would be a good project for the 250th.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 6, at 7:30.

The Secretary stated she would write letters to the Committee members and call.


July 31, 1975

Dear Bicentennial Committee Members;

Enclosed are the minutes from last night's meeting concerning the Bas Relief and reorganization of the Committee. As you will note, there is much that needs to be done. We have to think to the future and plan for 1976, so we can have a successful celebration of our Nation's 200th Birthday.

We therefore hope that you all will make the effort to take part in the Committee's work, which in the end will be beneficial to all our citizens and visitors.

Looking forward to seeing you next week.



Page McMahan
Secretary

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Town Clerk

August 6, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy McNulty, George Bryant

MEMBERS ABSENT: Everyone else

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. McNulty at 8:05.

All previous minutes were accepted as written.

Further reorganization of the Committee was postponed until more members are present--hopefully at the next meeting.

REPORTS ON BAS RELIEF

Mr. Bryant stated that he had contacted a local engineer, and two other engineers in the vicinity. None of them were interested in giving an opinion--this is basically true because no money is available for payment for such an opinion, and it has already been a controversial issue--it is not worth an engineer's while.

Mrs. McNulty read a report compiled by Mr. McNulty concerning the bronze plaque. The Smithsonian, The Museum of Fine Arts, Gorham Foundry, The Fogg, and the Modern Art Foundry. One thing all the above agreed on, was that it should be discovered what exactly was put on the Relief to give it its present finish--what is the original composition of the bronze. The Smithsonian stated that the acetone and lacquer are probably eating away at the bronze and that the present finish should be removed as quickly as possible. Gorham is trying to find its records of the original casting. Smithsonian of the opinion that using an ammonia compound is not the correct method to remove the present finish. They suggested several chemical compounds, but really need to know make-up of finish.

Must decide what kind of finish is desirable--whether it be a green patina which has been cleaned, or restoring it back to the original bronze finish.

It was decided that as soon as the technical information is gathered--it is coming in the mail--this information should be presented to the Art Commission and any other interested citizens, and the decision should be made as to the finish desired.

Mrs. McNulty also stated that she had contacted Edward Veara, and he stated that the only thing he knew about a possible case against Anselmo was what he had read in the paper. He felt that if a case does exist--evidence can be documented.

Veara also saw no reason why the Committee shouldn't contact Anselmo to get the technical information needed.

Mrs. McNulty said she also contacted Mr. Benson, and he stated that he did not want the committee contacting Anselmo; however, he would request the information if he were given the list of what was needed. (The secretary took this list which had been prepared by Mr. McNulty and said she would give it to the Town Manager)

Mr. Bryant was of the opinion that Mr. Benson should be contacted and that it should be emphasized to him that time is definitely of the essence, since the present finish could be eating away at the bronze, and the technical information is necessary in order to remove the finish in the correct manner.

Mrs. McNulty noted that she did not want everything the Committee does to have to go through the Town Manager's office; she said it just did not make sense.

The members present decided that they must soon go to the Finance Committee to request a transfer which would get them through the fiscal year

Mrs. McNulty stated that she was composing a report to the Selectmen concerning the activities of the Committee and the progress on the Bas Relief. This will be ready for the Selectmen's meeting this coming Monday.

The secretary stated she would type a letter to the State Commission informing them of the change in organization.

Discussion of a possible costume ball. Need to get the right people interested--ie. the Beachcombers, Art Assoc., etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. The next Bicentennial Committee meeting will be Wednesday, August 13, 1975, at 7:30 in Town Hall.

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Mrs. William K. Shears
3⁵1 Commercial Street

Mrs. Phyllis Campbell
434 Commercial Street

✓ Ms. Judith Turtz
14 Center Street

Sister Marie Ahern
20 Court Street

Mr. Joseph C. Ward
Three Gosnold Street

To be appointed by the Selectmen:

Mr. William R. Benson, Chairman (Chamber of Commerce)
27 Watson's Court

✓ Mrs. William J. McNulty (Nautilus Club)
586 Commercial Street

Mrs. Edward Cook (Catholic Daughters of America)
18 Alden Street

Mrs. Justin Avellar (Historic District Study)
240 Bradford Street

Mr. Lawrence Jones
4⁵ Commercial Street

✓ Mrs. Grace Collinson (Ladies Auxiliary of V.F.W.)
Five Washington Avenue

✓ Mr. George D. Bryant (Council on Aging)
4⁵7 Commercial Street

Mr. James P. ^{Souza} ~~Sawyer~~ (V.F.W. Post 31⁵2)
One Jerome Road

Mr. John T. Grace (Knights of Columbus)
County Road, North Truro

✓ Mr. Cyril J. Patrick (Provincetown Historical Association)
216 Bradford Street

Mr. Frank Motta, Jr. (Blessing of the Fleet)
Four Mozart Avenue

Mr. George F. Miller, Jr. (Cape Cod Pilgrim Memorial Assn.)
B. H. Dyer, Commercial Street

Mr. John Downey (Lions)
49 Bradford Street

MRS. JOHN DOWNEY
49 BRADFORD ST.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 1975

Present: Bill Benson, George Bryant, James Souza,
Miss Lewis, Mrs. McNulty, Grace Collinson, Mrs. Del Deo.

The Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Benson read a letter from Mr. McColgan of the Mass. Bicentennial Commission, which explained that the article in the state publication was written by Yankee Press. Mr. McColgan requested that the committee write a replacement and he would try to place it in the next edition.

Mrs. McNulty and Grace Collinson said they would work on this.

Grace Collinson pointed out the terrible disrepair of the sidewalk in front of the bas relief and the condition of the bas relief itself. It was decided that a letter should be written to the Town Manager.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that flowers should be planted in celebration of the Bicentennial years.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that the plaque marking the first washing place should be moved down here (center) where it belongs.

Mrs. Collinson also suggested that perhaps Sr. Citizens should act as history interpreters, stationed at different strategic locations.

Activities which are definite

Blessing of the Fleet, Old Home Week Dance	June 28, 8:00 P.M.
Blessing of the Fleet	June 29
Walking Tour 1975	

Proposed activities

Feast Day, Saint's Day Parade

Projects: As we Saw It (Column), Glimpses of P-Town, Information Booths with costumed Sr. Citizens, crude structures at strategic place: P-Town Inn, Shuttle Bust Point, or Route 6, Town Hall yard.

Mrs. Collinson also noted that three Provincetown women wnet whaling with their husbands, and perhaps this should be commemorated.

Mr. Bryant and Mrs. Collinson stated that earlier they had asked the Coast Guard if the Sr. Citizens could have the Light House Keeper's Cottage for a Center. It now belongs to the Seashore. Decided that requests should be re-initiated from both the Council on Aging and the Bicentennial Committee. Letters should be written to Lawrence Hadley.

Discussion of the Old Cemetery. Article is in the Warrant for \$15,000. Three CETA positions have been funded. Both Mr. Benson and Mrs. DelDeo will be following up on the help and guidance with restoration.

It was suggested that Mrs. Francis Euler be invited to our next meeting, which will be held Wednesday, April 2, 1975, at 7:30 P.M. in Caucus Hall.

Paul Cook

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 2, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. William Benson, Mrs. Nancy McNulty, Mrs. Marily J. Downey, Mrs. Bernese Shears.

OTHERS PRESENT: Alice Hopkins, and Isabella Nolton.

Mr. Benson stated that the Article in the Warrant concerning the oldest cemetery would be presented at Town Meeting by Jo DelDeo.

Mr. Benson also stated that the Town Manager has \$5,000 in hand for the repair and cleaning of the bus relief, so the Committee can use this for a base for a request for matching funds.

DISCUSSION OF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Benson stated that he would like some volunteers to help him ask all the restaurants in town to have a Bicentennial or National special, with the further request to have them decorate in red, white and blue.

Mrs. McNulty stated that it would be good to encourage the planting of red, white and blue flowers.

Mr. Benson stated that the Governor has been written and invited to present our Bicentennial flag and certificate prior to the start of the first night of Town Meeting. There is still no word from the Governor, but Mr. Benson is hopeful. If no one does come from the Governor's office, perhaps a luncheon can be planned and one of the Senators or Representatives can come down for that occasion and present it.

Mr. Benson stated that he hoped to get more participants in the Blessing of the Fleet Parade through the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Benson showed the Committee a water color of different scenes of Provincetown with the heading "Provincetown - Bicentennial", which a young lady in Falmouth did. The Committee can buy this for \$200, then have prints and post cards made and sell them for a profit. The entire group present was enthusiastic about this.

Through discussion the group present decided that a very good activity and money-raiser for this summer would be a Bicentennial Costume Ball, covering a period of the first 100 years of this country's history. It was decided that a date in August would be good. Mr. Benson and Alice Hopkins stated that inserts could be included with the Chamber of Commerce flyers giving

April 2, 1975

the date and description of this event. Mr. Benson stated that he would check with the Town Manager about a free date in August, so the Committee could get Town Hall for this activity.

It was also decided that a poster contest should be held in each school, and one of the winner's posters should be used as the general poster for the Dance. The posters could probably be displayed in certain store and restaurant windows.

The prizes for a Costume Ball are traditionally paintings so we need to ask artists and Associations for contributions.

It was also decided that perhaps a bicycle decorating contest could be held for the Fourth of July Parade.

The Secretary was requested to inform the Town Manager that \$600 is needed to pay for personal expenses of the Committee and \$2000 is needed for expenses--This will have to be a transfer of funds from the Finance Committee.

The next Bicentennial Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 1975 at 7:30 P.M.

At this meeting the Committee decided that a quorum would be the majority of members present.

The Committee requests that any members who have not been present at recent meetings, but who would be interested on working on some of or one of the activities decided upon should be present at the next meeting since we need you!

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Book Clerk

July 10, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Benson, Ms. Judy Turtz, Mrs. Nancy McNulty, Mr. Cyril Patrick,

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Dorothy Curran (representing Mrs. Alice Cook), and Mrs. Sal DelDeo.

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M.

Mr. Benson showed the committee a copy of the Bicentennial prints. He stated that they are only being sold at the Chamber of Commerce, and that it would be good if some of the members of the Committee sold them at different locations. Mr. Patrick stated that he would sell them at his store.

Mr. Benson read the committee a letter concerning the Bicentennial Freedom Wagon Train. Provincetown would not be able to have it here until the early fall, and the Committee decided that since that is after the season, it would not be justifiable to have it at that time.

It was decided after lengthy discussion that a statement should be prepared for the Selectmen's meeting on Monday.

The Question of the cost of the work done on the bronze was raised. Ms. Turtz went to Mr. Benson and discovered that the small compact plaque cost \$1,000 and the bas relief work cost \$2500. The Committee does not know whether these bills have been paid.

The letter composed at this meeting and sent to the Selectmen is attached and self-explanatory of the discussion involved in writing this statement.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Provincetown Bicentennial Committee
Town Hall
Provincetown, MA 02657

July 11, 1975

Board of Selectmen
Provincetown, MA 02657

Dear Selectmen:

We, the Bicentennial Committee feel that the action taken by the Town Manager in directing the restoration of the Bas Relief has seriously jeopardized both the restoration project and all future Bicentennial projects in the Town of Provincetown.

As a Committee duly appointed for the purpose of conducting all Bicentennial business, the Bicentennial Committee designed a project for the restoration of the Bas Relief. An application, a copy of which was given to the Town Manager, was submitted to the Massachusetts Bicentennial Committee for that purpose. This application included an implementation schedule which stated clearly that the project was to begin in mid-September.

In order to provide the matching funds for this project, the Selectmen approved the committee's use of \$3,000, appropriated in Article 81 of the 1971 Annual Town Meeting; the commitment of these funds was made by the Selectmen in their letter of April 24, 1975 to the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission. A matching grant of \$3,000 was then awarded on June 4, 1975. The \$6,000 was to be spent by the Provincetown Bicentennial Committee in accordance with grant guidelines and regulations of the State Bicentennial Commission.

Without notifying the Bicentennial Committee, without consulting with any member of the Bicentennial Committee, without seeking the approval of the Committee, the Town Manager began unauthorized work on the Bas Relief. In doing so, he has committed money that he had no right to commit. He has usurped the authority of a duly appointed Town Committee. He has ignored the plans for restoration and the implementation schedule which were

July 11, 1975

designed by the Bicentennial Committee prior to our summer recess. And he has jeopardized this project and all future Bicentennial projects by ignoring the procedural requirements of the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission.

As a further result of the Town Manager's action, the Bas Relief has been defaced. This is the opinion of the Committee and of many members of the community at large. In view of this, the Committee completely disassociates itself from the job undertaken by the Town Manager, and we want it made clear that this is not the project of the Provincetown Bicentennial Committee, funds for which we trust are still available. We seek the Selectmen's assurance that that is so.

Sincerely,

Provincetown Bicentennial Committee

cc: Mr. Gardner R. Benson
Finance Committee

July 30, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Turtz, Nancy McNulty, George Bryant, Grace Collinson, and Cyril Patrick.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gardner R. Benson, Ellen Cook, Paul Christo.

George Bryant explained the letter he was writing concerning the Trap Shed Museum, which is to go into the Environmental Impact Statement.

It was decided that after the committee had a chance to read the letter, it would write a letter of support.

Nancy McNulty was unanimously elected the new Chairman.

It was further decided that at a later date, further re-organization would be necessary.

Miss Turtz stated that it is necessary for the committee to generate more interest.

The Committee decided that the main thing it must discover when Mr. Benson joins the meeting is whether the \$3000 matching funds are still available.

Nancy McNulty stated to Mr. Benson that the Committee's main concern is with the Bas Relief and the obligation to the State--is the \$3,000 there. If it is there, the Committee should proceed as planned, if not the committee should notify the state.

Mr. Benson stated the following:

1. No Town monies have been expended as of this date.
2. Counsel is being asked to investigate certain misrepresentations by Mr. Anselmo.
3. Fruitful discussions have been held with a bronze sculptor of national reputation (Mr. Benson stated he would give the name to the Chairman in confidence, since the sculptor wanted no publicity)
4. Two foundries were contacted as a result of these discussions: Biddy Makky, Indian St, Brookly, 212-eV3-4191; and Modern Art Foundry, John Spring, Queens, Long Island, 212-728-2030.
5. These two foundries concur on the following method to remove the present effect of the Bas Relief:
2% ammonia with water, applied by a lay person with a Steam Jenny. They both disagree violently with Anselm's method of using Acetone.

Mr. Benson asked if there are any comments on the Compact Plaques.

George Bryant asked if the big one cost \$2,500, why did the two small ones cost \$1,000.

Mr. Benson stated he could not answer this question.

Miss Turtz: If no Town money expended, is the Committee's use of the \$3,000 dependent upon your working out your grievances with Anselmo.

Mr. Benson: I would say no. The \$3,000 is there and will be there.

George Bryant: Are you contesting the job Anselmo has done?

Mr. Benson: I'm not going any further than what I have already said.

Nancy McNulty: If plaque is in contention, will it be available to do the job as we outlined it in the past.

Judy Turtz: What will be the state of the relief as of Sept 1975? Will it be in its present state or past state?

Mr. Benson: The point that both foundries made was that a lay person could use the ammonia solution with a steam jenny. It is now the task of the Committee to make sure this is the proper method--I do not want to lead you astray.

George Bryant stated that Gorham should be contacted, since they cast the bronze when it was first done. The Committee agreed.

Judy Turtz: If you are fighting Anselmo, won't you want the Bronze intact.

Mr. Benson: Expert testimony, photos, etc. can be used.

Mr. Benson emphasized the fact that he felt the estimates in the application were under. Most of them are over \$1,000; therefore, must go out for bid and must follow state labor wages.

Nancy McNulty asked if volunteer labor could be used?

Benson: That is possible but you can't pay less than the minimum rate if you are paying--that would be circumventing the law.

Miss Turtz suggested that the Committee meet at a later date to discuss the possibility and low estimates and what should be done.

Nancy McNulty asked if we should oversee the cleaning of the plaque.

Judy Turtz stated that we should check with the three foundries, then discuss it with Mr. Benson and Mr. Veara.

Nancy McNulty stated that she would check with the foundries.

Judy Turtz said she would work with Mr. Benson concerning appropriate bid procedures.

George Bryant questioned the need for a reinforced concrete wall. He will check with Mr. Arnold King and an engineer.

Mr. Benson then read a letter concerning the need for the committee to work on a well-planned project for next summer -- 1976. He stated that his suggestions were just that. He suggested the week of the Blessing of the Fleet and July Fourth. He also stated that perhaps a sub-committee from the committee, joined by a Selectman would be a good measure. He emphasized the fact that it is none too early to start on plans.

Cyril Patrick stated that it is a good possibility that the Committee will continue after 1976, since 1977 is Provincetown's 250th anniversary of incorporation as a Town.

It was noted that perhaps the Washer Woman would be a good project for the 250th.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 6, at 7:30.

The Secretary stated she would write letters to the Committee members and call.

July 31, 1975

Dear Bicentennial Committee Members;

Enclosed are the minutes from last night's meeting concerning the Bas Relief and reorganization of the Committee. As you will note, there is much that needs to be done. We have to think to the future and plan for 1976, so we can have a successful celebration of our Nation's 200th Birthday.

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Town Clerk

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

August 6, 1975

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MEMBERS ABSENT: Everyone else

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