

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is meet and fitting that the year-round inhabitants of the Town of Provincetown have an annual occasion on which there might be welcomed back to the Town our perennial summer visitors and inhabitants, as well as those former inhabitants who have moved afield and afar, but whose loyalties to the Town of Provincetown remain a bond which ties us all together in a common brotherhood; and

WHEREAS, on the last Sunday of June of each year there has been and should be a pageantry honoring the fishermen of the Town and culminating in the Blessing of the Provincetown Fishing Fleet;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Provincetown as follows:

THAT on the last Sunday of June, being the twenty-sixth day of June in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty, there be held in the Town of Provincetown a day to be known as "Old Home Day", during which the Town and committees of the Town may conduct appropriate celebrations in honor of returning residents and other invited guests and hold exercises of historic and public interest;

THAT the Board of Selectmen sponsor an article at a special Town Meeting requesting the appropriation of the sum of five hundred dollars, to be spent under the supervision and with the approval of the Town Manager, in connection with the proper observance of said Old Home Day.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ John C. Snow

ERNEST DESCHENE, Sec.
ANTHONY THOMAS, JR.
DAVID RODERICK
CUSTODIO SILVA
INSLEY CATON
ALFRED SOUZA

JOHN RUSSE, TREAS.
SERAPHINE CODINHA
JOSEPH RODERICK
ANTHONY JACKETT
FRANK MOTTA
MANUEL HENRIQUE

Blessing Of The Fleet

Provincetown, Massachusetts

MANUEL PHILLIPS, CHAIRMAN
ARTHUR B. SILVA, CO-CHAIRMAN

June 23, 1960

Mr. Walter Lawrence, Town Manager
Provincetown, Massachusetts

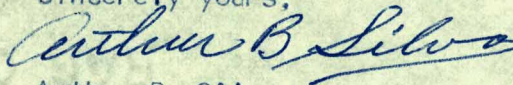
Dear Sir:

It is our pleasure to invite you and the Board of Selectmen to take part in our Old Home Day and the Blessing of the Fleet ceremonies on Sunday, June 26, 1960.

The procession to the Church will start in front of Town Hall at 10:30 A.M.. In the afternoon at 2:00 P.M. to escort the Bishop and Clergy to the dock for the blessing.

Hoping that you all can attend, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Arthur B. Silva
Chairman

Old Home Day

May 17, 1960

Mr. John C. Snow
7 Carver Street
Provincetown, Massachusetts

Dear John:

Attached hereto is an invitation ~~to attend an invitation~~, apparently to attend an Old Home Week in the Town of Easthampton, which is suggestive of what you might do here in Provincetown in connection with Old Home Day.

Why not get up some form of invitation, similar to this one, and send it out to friends of people of the Town on the occasion of your Old Home Day and Blessing of the Fleet ceremony. Some kind of a release throughout the Cape would be helpful in bringing a good crowd here.

Also, may I suggest that you get up some form of a resolution by the Board of Selectmen, setting forth ^a number of whereases, the occasion of Old Home Day similar to the way it is set forth in this announcement. Just a thought.

Best regards,

Walter E. Lawrence
Town Manager

WEL:mcc

April 21, 1960

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen ✓

Gentlemen:

Attached hereto is a letter which I have received from the City Manager of Gloucester, in response to my letter to him for information as to how the City of Gloucester was able to spend public funds for the celebration of the Blessing of the Fleet. I wrote to the City Manager of Gloucester at the request of Herman Dine, who advised that this city had been celebrating the Blessing of the Fleet for many years, and had apparently expended city funds for the purpose.

It seems to be the opinion of Mr. Dine that if a celebration is for the entertainment of the general public, that the expenditure of funds is in order. However, I am referring this letter to you for the information that it contains.

see: T. Mgr. folder
Very truly yours,

Walter E. Lawrence
Town Manager

WEL:mcc



City of Gloucester

Office Of The City Manager

CITY HALL • GLOUCESTER • MASSACHUSETTS

April 14, 1960

Mr. Walter E. Lawrence
Town Manager
Town Hall
Provincetown, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

I have your letter of April 11th, inquiring about the City of Gloucester's policy in appropriating funds for the Blessing of the Fleet, which has been held here every summer for many years.

It appears that we think along the same lines in setting up funds for this purpose, as Gloucester actually considers this event a summer attraction, just as your "Old Home Day" would be.

The St. Peter's Fiesta Committee sponsors the Blessing of the Fleet. The City contributes towards the expenses of the St. Peter's Fiesta. The City Auditor pays bills presented to him by this Committee up to \$600.00.

This money is actually set up under our Celebrations & Entertainment Account, as are expenses for Summer Band Concerts, Carillon Concerts, Festival of the Arts, etc.

Frankly, the City Council and I feel that all the citizens benefit from this expenditure in that it brings many visitors to our City, whose second largest industry of course is Summer tourists.

Sincerely,

Philip Tartas
City Manager

Old Home Day

April 11, 1960

City Manager
Gloucester, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

It is my understanding that your city for some years has participated in the celebration of the Blessing of the Fleet, and I am writing at the suggestion of the Selectmen of Provincetown to inquire if you expend city funds in connection with this religious ceremony.

Some opposition to the use of Town funds for this purpose has been registered for the reason that it is a religious ceremony.

Would you please advise as to how you handle the matter. Do you use city funds? If so, how much do you use and for what purposes?

The Selectmen of Provincetown plan to have an Article at a special Town Meeting to appropriate a sum of money for the celebration of "Old Home Day", as provided by law, and have the Blessing of the Fleet as part of the program. I took the matter up with the Director of Accounts, Herman Dine, at the State House and he advised that it would probably be all right to spend money for the occasion if done as part of Old Home Day or Week. He suggested contacting Gloucester officials on how you handle it.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Lawrence
Town Manager

WEL:mcc