



**CELEBRATE MANSFIELD FESTIVAL COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 5:00 PM**

**Minutes**

**Attendance:** Chair Emily Wicks, Sarah Dufresne, Kyle Muncy

**Staff:** Denise Kegler, Cynthia van Zelm

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM.

**2. Public comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approve Minutes from March 10, 2021**

Kyle Muncy made a motion to approve the motion and Sarah Dufresne seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

**4. Review State Health & Safety Protocols**

Denise Kegler provided an overview of the current guidelines provided by the State. There has been no specific update regarding large festivals however the terminology has been changed to "best practice" for other sector rules. **Ms. Kegler will draft a site plan in accordance with the current best practices to be reviewed at the next meeting.**

The Committee also discussed a possible change in the public perception of risk at gatherings and events. Ms. Dufresne asserted that the onus is transferring to individuals to maintain and monitor their own personal safety at gatherings, such as sporting events. The Committee agreed with this sentiment and considered how it will affect the extent we need to monitor guest compliance of safety rules at the Festival.

**5. Update on Center for Hellenic Studies Paideia Event**

Ms. Wicks provided an overview of a multi-day event by the UConn Hellenic Studies and Paideia celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Greek independence and the 2500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Thermopylae. In its current plan, some elements of this event will be held in Downtown Storrs on the same date as the Festival.

The Committee discussed possible challenges with holding both events on the same date including parking limitations and road closures. Mr. Muncy suggested that the Festival should move to the rain date so that the two events would not conflict. The Committee supported this suggestion but will wait to make a final decision until the next meeting on April 28.

**6. Review Potential Sponsor List and Outreach Letter**



The Committee reviewed the sponsor materials and discussed the timeline for outreach. With the possible event date change, the letters will be held until a final decision has been made. Considering possible health & safety restrictions, Ms. Dufresne also suggested an edit to generalize the description of the event, removing reference to the previous attendance numbers. **Ms. Kegler will prepare the outreach letter with all necessary edits to be sent following the April 28 meeting.**

The Committee also discussed the fundraising potential of a social media campaign focused on small donors. Ms. Wicks provided background on the success of a similar campaign that she recently organized for the Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry.

### **7. Adjourn**

Mr. Muncy made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Dufresne seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 PM.

*Minutes prepared by Denise Kegler*