

Fourth of July Committee Meeting Minutes
10/18/23 6:30 PM
Ashland Booster Club

- The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: Kendall Hughes, Matty Leighton, Asa Ammarin, Ann Barney, Katrina Randlett, Tim Alexander.
- Review of September Minutes – Tim moved to accept the minutes, Katrina seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously with Matty abstaining because she was absent in September.
- Financial Report – Katrina provided an overview of the current financials.
- Old Business
 - Mary Ruell Award Nominations – This award is given to a person who has consistently done things for the Ashland community without their work being recognized. The committee considered all nominations and an awardee was selected by unanimous vote.
 - Grand Marshall Nominations – Tabled until November.
 - Themes – Themes that have been proposed include Red, White and Blue; Red, White and Boom; Our Lady Liberty; Blast from the Past – The 1950s; Ashland Traditions; Fun in the Sun; and Let Freedom Ring. Selection was tabled until November.
 - Fireworks – We have received a four-year contract from the new owners of our current vendor (Atlas), which calls for us to pay \$18K in 2024, \$20-22K the following year, and \$25K the last two years. The town has given us the OK to sign a multi-year contract, but we would prefer a year-to-year contract right now. Kendall has talked to two other vendors and is waiting for quotes from them, which should be available for discussion at the November meeting.
- New Business
 - The situation with the ballpark is unsettled because the current owners of the adjoining property have demanded the town remove the skating rink and move the gazebo so their right-of-way is unimpeded. They've asked the town to respond to this demand no later than 10/31/23 with a proposed completion date for the changes. Other parts of the park are also impacted by the adjoining property owners' easement, and depending on when construction starts the Fourth of July celebration could be impacted. This probably won't be an issue for the 2024 event.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.
- The next meeting is Wednesday, 11/15/23 at 6:30 PM at the Ashland Booster Club.

Minutes submitted by Matty Leighton