

**Village of Essex Junction**  
**2014 Block Party Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 23 at 3:30 PM**

Present: Bridget Meyer, Joanie Maclay, Sam Jackson, Rick Jones and Patty Benoit.

Public Works Superintendent Rick Jones joined the meeting to discuss any new tasks for the crew, specifically, helping with the night run. EJRP had indicated they could use help with closing off Grove Street to cars during the run. Rick said that wouldn't be a problem. EJRP, with the help of the police and fire department, are handling everything else.

The time change of 5-10 PM means the Public Works guys won't get done breaking down and cleaning up until after midnight. The block party committee helps too, but can't truck things back to the shop, such as benches, chairs and trash.

We talked about the issue of people parking on Lincoln Place during the block party even though the street is closed. That's where the roaming railroad operates and it's getting tricky with cars parking there. We'll try to make it harder for people to sneak in. We also discussed setting up a couple of handicap parking spots but it was agreed that the federal building parking lot is fine for handicap parking.

The draft site plan and list of participants were reviewed. A change on the site plan was made for one vendor. The vendors who are on the sunny side of the street have a hard time, but Bridget said that the Library Foundation and Historical Society could borrow canopies from the farmer's market. We want to keep the food vendors on the shady side. Comments from last year's evaluation forms included wanting more benches and tables on the street when eating.

In regard to the comedy show by Vermont Comedy Divas, we weren't told the time so we need to know that for advertising and when we help with collecting donations for the food shelf. We'll reach out to our contact, and then put the word out on our website, Downtown Facebook page and Front Porch Forum.

Everyone agreed that the day of the block party will stay the same (Sat. July 19) and there will be no changing this year. If it's raining hard, we'll have to cancel but will not reschedule.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM. The next meeting will be the wrap-up meeting in early August after the block party.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Benoit