

Strawberry Festival events considered

By KATE GILDERDALE
The Strawberry Festival committee held its second meeting of the year last Tuesday evening at the Recreation Centre.

In summing up preparations made to date, Gary Fisher advised the committee on the cost of wooden nickels, which can be used in conjunction with local

retailers as part of a tie-in with the Festival. It was agreed the Chamber of Commerce should be approached and asked if its members are interested in promoting the idea.

According to Gary, both lawn bowling and the Lions' beef barbecue have been confirmed for the Wednesday night. It's also

expected the Miss Whitchurch Stouffville pageant will take place, with about five volunteers required to help out.

Peter Arnott, in charge of organizing the triathlon, said he also needs volunteer help for that event.

On the subject of the teen dance, Peter suggested the idea of a sponsor. "A lot of the events are either free or sponsored by a group or agency," he pointed out. "Teens have to pay the full price."

He also suggested the possibility of holding the dance outside, allowing Latcham Hall to be used

for other events. Last year's dance was extremely successful, he noted, with 125 tickets sold and people being turned away at the door.

The triathlon probably won't need financial support this year, he advised, because it came close to breaking even last year.

"I'm anticipating double the numbers, but not double the cost," he said. "Last year we were overstocked (on refreshments); this year I might even get some revenue for the Festival."

Gary reported Bill Anderson will be organizing a radio con-

trolled car course for children ages 10 and up. Jim Kidd suggested approaching local merchants for prizes.

"We definitely have the antique cars coming," confirmed Gary. "I'm thinking of using the grass where the old arena was."

The cars would drive through a town along Main Street in a parade on their way to the site. He also stated the Newcomers have again offered to run the information booth.

Gary noted he is in the process of trying to get a group of male singers to entertain crowds on the Sunday; group leader Bob

Foster has indicated they will be willing to sing during the church service. However, Gary felt they should meet with the ministers first. The group requests a fee of \$200 for the day, which they donate to charity.

It was suggested plaques honoring those who have chaired Stouffville's Canada Day celebrations for the last 10 years should be presented after the cake-cutting ceremony on July 1. Said Pat Ratcliff: "It started with Canada Day, it would make sense to honor them then."

This year's baby contest should be run by the Town, said Peter. Pat noted it was one of the big draws in 1988.

The next meeting will take place March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Centre. Those wishing to volunteer for Festival events can call the Recreation office at 640-6527.

Farming underway

By W.J. BAXTER
Agricultural Representative
Durham West

Farmers are already making plans for the 1989 cropping season.

Choices of varieties, fertilizers, weed sprays and other such decisions, as well as financing options, are major concerns at this time of year.

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food has a number of publications that can help growers make the right decisions.

Three of these have been especially popular over the years.

The 1989-90 Field Crops Recommendations lists the varieties recommended, the fertilizer requirements of the various crops and some agricultural information.

The 1989 Guide to Chemical Weed Control discusses weed control practices for each crop and weed problem. It also provides help in calibrating sprayers and safe handling of pesticides.

The 1989 Crop Budgets is a guide for financial planning crop programs.

All three of these publications can be picked up at Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food county and regional offices.

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