March 7, 2014 Communications Committee Minutes

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NORTH YARMOUTH COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

March 7, 2014 Minutes

Attending: Donna, Darla, Katie, Rob, Jesse, Kathy Postcard for Town Meeting, Annual Report, warrant: We should have printed copies of the warrant by April 5. Do we have the date of the MSAD 51 budget vote? At Greely. Should this also be on the card? Organize the card by date with town report at the end. Ashley will rearrange by bullet. Darla will send the revised version after talking to Marnie. Darla will handle the printing; Katie will provide permit information.

Nominations for recognition in town report: Who are these chosen by? Katie will check out whether this would be the same as the Distinguished Citizen. The feeling was that it should be a different pool – could be someone deceased, more than one, building, or organization. Marnie is going to write something requesting nominations. A picture for the front cover is also needed – who chooses? Building? Collage of people? We have a lot of volunteers. Also, the Fire Department has been mentioned in the Forecaster as being forward thinking – on cover?

Minutes of February 7 meeting: Approved as printed. Katie/Darla. Voted.

Veterans' names: For the Korean War ceremony, the committee had to identify North Yarmouth veterans. They got a list from the Historical Society, but this wasn't complete and there was no way to know who the people were and who they didn't have. Herb Hamel compiled the names for Veterans Park - this was the only available list. A group of veterans is now getting together to pay attention to what happens to Veterans Park. There is a feeling that the same kind of recognition should be done for Vietnam vets. Darla is going to collect information through whatever means might be available – veterans' organizations, us, combination, whatever. This will be stored in spreadsheet form with some parts to the Historical Society. This would be appropriate information for the town website. Q: If on town website, what happens if someone in town wants the town to post some other request for membership (e.g., dog owners). Anything posted on the website should be sanctioned by the Communications Committee. Katie noted that the veterans' group in town should be compiling information (Darla is on this committee and volunteered to do it). Could this work be under the auspices of the Flag Committee so that it would be sponsored by a town committee? The veterans' committee isn't a town committee – they are only interested in the park for now. The Flag Committee puts up around 120 flags and has the names of those sponsored for. This information is not given out. Some flags are put up for deceased family members or groups, not necessarily veterans.

Recycling: The meeting with Leo went well, and the ideas were good as well. Rob noted that we should take a slow approach, establish and publicize a goal, then find ways of achieving it, for example, perhaps a year-long project to get to a modest increase in recycling (such as 10%). He doesn't want to propose an increased bag fee to the BOS. We need to continue to educate the public, and the board should also remind people annually. It would be nice to do something in the schools. Other ideas: Check into high school senior public service requirements; put something in RFTH soliciting help; bring up or publicize something at Town Meeting? Publicize data on the fact that North Yarmouth recycling has gone down over a 5-year period – people could sign up to help. Rob can staff a table at elections in June. We still need to set a goal, determine activities, and find people to help.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 9, 7:30 am