

LWNY Minutes of May 22, 2017

In Attendance:

Gay Peterson, Ginny Vandyke, Rod Duckworth, Richard Brobst, Priscilla Brobst, Donna Palmer, Steven Palmer, Curtis Call

Update on Resource Booklet: finalizing the print version of the booklet will depend on Cindy Guernsey's schedule. Donna has consulted the town manager on how to proceed on this project. Asset information is compiled.

Meeting with Greg Payson: Ginny, Rod, Donna and Steve provided the committee members with what was learned in the meeting with the Chief on May 11. Chief has been very active in CPR lessons, Code Red, making AED devices available to businesses and churches and visiting daycare programs. He is currently working on a diabetes educational program with a resident who has expertise in the field. The committee learned that our public employees work together to provide services to those in our community most in need. The Chief is in a particularly good position to review billing of those most in need. He works closely with the town manager to insure that a health crisis does not put those most vulnerable to financial stress in a worse situation.

Our code enforcement officer, health officer, public works department head and town manager assistant are providing tremendous support for our most vulnerable citizens. We only urge that the committee be informed if and when there is an opportunity to offer assistance. The committee also supported the diabetes education forums and is prepared to help in whatever way makes sense. The committee talked briefly about communicating all that the fire and rescue department is doing in the town.

The committee would like to have Greg attend one of our meetings to learn first hand what he and the department is doing to reach out to the community and to perhaps learn how we can provide assistance.

Wednesday May 17th Forum: The forum raised the need for future daytime meetings when essential information on special projects, proposals and otherwise important information needs to be communicated. This finding will be reported to the town manager in hopes of having all committees consider daytime meetings as part of communicating important information to the public.

A number of questions were also asked by the attendees. The questions will be conveyed to the Wescustogo Building and Design committee.

The concept of a phone chain or tree emerged as yet another approach to use in reaching community. Two people attending the forum were there because Pam Ames had called them.

The group thanked Rod for his presentation and Ginny is thanked for having supplied excellent "light" culinary delights.

First Greeter Program: A model for introducing new residents to our town was discussed. Rod Duckworth presented the concept and upon lengthy discussion it was agreed to proceed with development of a program. Donna reminded the committee that the asset list, one of the top 3 priorities of our work, was finished (except the printing), social activities remained ongoing and earlier discussion of transportation left us with no active requests for transportation but to remain vigilant in making sure people have a number to call in the event there is a need by individuals to request transportation. Donna will contact the town office to see how best to do this. Gay suggested people call the town office and the office can then refer the person to a specific person to call. This places the burden of making the call upon the individual requesting the service. The LWNy will have to keep the office staff aware of who the contact person and telephone number is for any given time.

Since the office staff currently has a folder of information to include in a Greeter program, it was suggested an attempt be made to combine the welcome material and the asset list in one booklet. This booklet would be updated on an annual basis or as necessary to maintain relative accuracy.

Reaching out to the businesses in town for inclusion in the Greeter program was deemed important.

To help move this project forward Gay will ask Rob, as a communication committee member, to work on drafting a model First Greeter program. Curtis Call will also work with Gay and Rob on this subcommittee assignment.

Ginny expressed her commitment to this project best by saying “this screams for our name on it”. The group agreed with this assessment. Al recited his joy in reaching out to new residents in his North Road neighborhood. The idea of neighborhood ambassadors was touched upon.

Transportation: No person called to request transportation to the forum. Despite this the committee fervently wishes to continue announcing transportation assistance. Ginny advocated for publishing transportation for events like voting day.

Al: would you mind calling our Cumberland contact to alert us to requests they may get for Car Share from our residents?

Summit Forum: Several members will be attending the first annual Summit Forum.

Phone Call Chain: Following an earlier conversation it was agreed that trying to establish a phone chain would be an excellent means of reaching people at times of special events. Steve will contact Pam Ames to see how we might get this underway. We all see this starting small and slowly building.

Branding: Gay explained how the LWNy committee should be using the town logo in our correspondence. There was no consensus other than the committee agreeing that there is no sense of immediacy in tackling a logo. Since this has little impact on what this committee is currently targeting for goals detailing a logo is a low priority. We can wait until further work is completed on publishing the booklet and our graphics resource has an opportunity to provide professional input. Thank you Gay for following through on this.

VOA: Gay provided a summary of the Volunteers of America presentation she and others attended at the home of Darla Hamlin. Gay found the information valuable yet beyond the scope of this committee. Fortunately some of the people who did attend will likely be in a position of leadership in our town and thus can advocate for what VOA might offer our town.

As always, plenty of material covered, great discussion and more to do! I ask you to notify me immediately of anything I missed. I will edit the minutes based on what you pass along and then by email, we can accept the minutes.

Next meetings: all at 1PM
June 19th

July 10th

August 21st