

Minutes
Culture, History and Governance (CHuG)
Sub-Committee
January 30, 2008

Present: Paul Giese, Mark Hochman, Jack MacLean, Karen Keane, Bill Stason, Harriet Todd, Peter Sugar

We discussed the following:

- We returned to a discussion on the upcoming Forum. There will be a briefing/training session on 8 February at 6:45 PM, just preceding the lecture by Armando Carbonell. We reconfirmed the facilitators: Harriet and Nancy for the Cultural and Historic break-out and Bill Stason and PS for Governance. The fall-backs are Susan Brooks and Paul Giese
- Surveys:
 - Board Survey: there are some more responses coming in. Most of the tabulation has already been completed. The consultant will only be asked for a numerical analysis
 - Citizen Survey: The Press release has been sent to both the Lincoln Journal and Boston Globe West. Printing will be restricted to 3,500 copies (appx. 2,800 copies are required for the bulk mailing and the rest will be spares – for additional copies/pick-ups for people). The survey is also now on the Town website and will be activated, once we give the word. Printing is imminent and mailing will occur next week, starting on Monday. The hope is that everyone will be aware by the time we hold the Forum – we may even have received some copies back
 - Cost: these have not been finalized as yet. The consultant fees are in excess of what we have been authorized and thus we are continuing to negotiate, both with the consultants and the powers-to-be in Town
- Goals and Objectives: we reviewed the several versions floating around. After some discussion we agreed on our final draft – this will be sent around to all members of CHuG, with comments due by Friday, and then it will be distributed as we have been requested to do.
- Interviews: write-ups: we are still waiting for MMNHP (Mark with Jack), First Parish (Bill); also Thoreau – with its interview set for this afternoon
- There was a detailed memo and objection from Susan B as to the Goals statement, specifically that it expressed views about the town on which we could hardly have agreed as we have failed so far to speak to most town people. It was pointed out that:
 - Our preference had been to raise ideas in the form of questions and then explore how people feel about the various topics
 - The direction we received that we come up with definitive statements – even if we do not necessarily agree about these – to foster discussion at the Forum: as stated: “sticking our necks out”!
 - Thus none of the Goals should be taken at their face value and we will be able better to define these after we have had: a) Town Forum and public input (including survey responses), and b) after we have interviewed town officials and staff (as to the latter, not just department heads but also members of the staff).

Next meeting: 7:30 AM on February 13, 2008 – **at the Library.**