

Minutes  
Culture, History and Governance (CHuG)  
Sub-Committee  
February 13, 2008

Present: Susan Brooks, Mark Hochman, Jack MacLean, Karen Keane, Harriet Todd, Peter Sugar

We discussed the following:

- We briefly touched on how the Forum went - see separate CHuG notes from our two break-out groups: sent to Town for incorporation into an overall report about the Forum
- Surveys:
  - Board surveys: as a result of the additional push, we received 60 responses. Harriet and Bill have tabulated most of the written responses. All numerical responses can be data-entered – best done on an Excel sheet, which we believe we can complete (Bill may be able to get one of his students to help)
  - Citizen survey: this has gone out and the deadline is 22 February. CHuG (as many members as possible) intends to attend the next SC meeting to push our case for getting paid for tabulating/data entering the survey and other costs (currently the Planning Board has voted a maximum expenditure of \$3,000, which is inadequate.)
- Interviews of C&H assets: nearly complete: the last minutes still pending are with Mark H – for MMNHP. It is critical to have these all completed soonest
- Next steps:
  - Town board/committee interviews: we need to come to a decision as to which of these we should interview and the type of questions we need to ask. It is hoped that Harriet and Bill can make a recommendation here and we will discuss this at our next meeting
  - We also agreed that we need to interview some of the staff of these boards - on a one-on-one basis – to ensure confidentiality and an open discussion. Some of the questions which we need to address are related to us (the Town) as an employer
  - Asset follow-up: we need to discuss what we have learned and how to draw conclusions from the interviews we have conducted so far. Are there any which we need to elaborate? Again: we will take this up at our next meeting. We also touched on the fact that the list of historic assets should be entered in a data-base which could be shared with the Historic Commission/HDC (are we stepping on anyone's toes?)
  - COG's current efforts and the work-plan we have received from them: how to adapt the latter. There is some concern that COG may be going ahead without adequate input and discussion with the subcoms
  - Schools: we need to follow up on our initial intent of speaking with them – while recognizing that it is beyond our current scope - for one because of the great deal of additional time which would be needed for a full review
  - Everyone is concerned re: the time remaining – perhaps not much more than six months if we accept the fact that little will happen during the summer months
  - We discussed the potential of having an implementation committee to follow up after completion of our work – perhaps appointed by the Moderator – but also acknowledged that unless the Selectmen and other Town boards/officials buy into the Master Plan, it will not become effective

Next meeting: 7:30 AM on February 20, 2008 – **at the Library.**