

Minutes
Culture, History and Governance (CHuG)
Sub-Committee
March 12, 2008

Present: Susan Brooks, Nancy Henderson, Jack MacLean, Karen Keane, Harriet Todd, Bill Stason, Peter Sugar

We discussed the following:

- We reviewed yesterday's SC meeting. The question arose as to whether we should have a handout at Town Meeting. Some had the opinion that we should do a tableau – but realized that this probably would not 'fly' - nor do we have adequate time to prepare it in the next two weeks. We will hold on this until the SOTT meeting in November
- We reviewed the status of the survey tabulations and analysis. The town-wide survey is being entered by DataStar and we should have a preliminary result by TM. As for the board survey, the tabulation is complete and there is now a report from our sub-group (BS, HT, NH). Whether this also could be analyzed by DataStar would all depend on any budgetary needs - BS to speak with MH. (DataStar's budget needs to stay below \$5,000!)
- We returned to a discussion of Bill's memo - see the latest draft – attached:
 - How to share the discussion with the various town boards and committees
 - Should we hold focus groups as we initially intended (see previous discussions)
 - It was felt that in many ways we may also not be quite ready and not be properly 'grounded' in what we are trying to achieve.
 - Should we continue to reach out, gather more data, and how much time will all this take – recognizing our limited time-availability and our need to have us complete this phase by the end of June
 - Numerous ideas were floated - including the possibility of inviting some experts at the Kennedy School of Government - who have done research in this field
 - We should also ask for COG help
 - The need to categorize the different classes of volunteers – some who work for major town boards and some who work for smaller groups, some who step up for a single assignment and some whom the Selectmen have chosen for certain tasks
 - In essence we need to push forward. We decided in the end to follow two immediate paths:
 - Talk with the Selectmen as, among other things, a matter of courtesy to see what their ideas might be in reaction to our suggestions. PS will make the call
 - Talk with both PTA and LSPO: this will take the form somewhat like our previous interviews. SB and NH will take on this contact
 - It is hoped that both of these tasks can be completed yet before TM

Next meeting: 7:30 AM on 19 March, 2008 – **at the Library.**