

Minutes
Culture, History and Governance (CHuG)
Sub-Committee
December 5, 2007

Present: Susan Brooks, Paul Giese, Nancy Henderson, Mark Hochman, Karen Keane, Harriet Todd, Peter Sugar

We discussed the following:

- We reviewed our meeting with Judi Barrett yesterday - see separate minutes. Questions generated by this review:
 - We are still not looking at education, though it has an affect/needs to be a part of the MP (notwithstanding any State directive): as an example: how is the Town to finance the ever increasing costs of special education?
 - Who will pay for the implementation of aspects of the MP?
 - These points could be brought up for discussion during he public meeting of 2/2 (we could also raise them with the SC on 12/18)
- We also looked at our work plan and discussed the fact of having to show our activities through the beginning of 2009 – the conclusion of the MP effort, prior to putting out the document
- We then turned to the survey and in particular the comparisons and differences between what Mark has drafted and the draft produced by Harriet. Some of the questions we thought needed to be included:
 - The attendance at TM may be affected by other meetings the citizenry attends: e.g. time devoted to meetings of the schools, the library, the churches and such like: what are the other institutional commitments citizens are involved with?
 - How specific should our questions be? It is good to have anchored questions but this type of approach would only lengthen the survey and take it beyond the time we thought people would be willing to spend in responding
 - How do people get their information in town? - Lincoln Journal? TV? Flyers from the schools, COA, PTA, etc.?
 - How to define an individual's weekly activities - how specific should we be?
 - Responding to the questions on one's professional activities/categories: Mark felt it was necessary to follow what other surveys do – in order to be able to compare the data
 - Regarding past experience: should we restrict this to the more recent time, as this would give us a better picture on why people do what they do: it was thought that we should keep the time limit for the questions relating to TM, but perhaps not to volunteerism as a whole
 - How to ensure that older folk can still stay involved, even after they get to be less mobile but still retain their intellectual faculties. Electronic means are good for this – but run contrary to the Open Meeting law. Should we tackle this question – even though it is State imposed? Can the Town/local government help?
- We returned to the time schedule for the survey: Mark will attempt to get to Mark Whitehead and hopefully get the input of the other subcoms by 8 and not 11 December; then he could redraft the survey by the time of our meeting of the 12th; we could then have some time to comment before it is taken to the SC on 18 December for final approval and distribution

Next meeting: 7:30 AM on 12/12