9.22.26

Ad Hoc Community Conversation Meeting

In Attendance –

Ann Heffernon, Mark LaBelle, Lea Dunham, Dan LeClair, Jessica Sanchez, Peg Richards, Josh Guion, Ashley Guion, Jenna Carrol, Steve Russell

Meeting was called to order at 5:08

Motion to approve notes from 9.10.26 meeting. Russel moved, LeClair seconded. Discussion made to edit number of times the town newsletter is published. All in favor with correction.

Housekeeping on number of packets that need to be printed for each meeting. (3 sets).

Heffernon has been in touch with NH Humanities and they are on board with our concept of two functions, newsletter and game night if financially feasible. She also met with the Selectboard and they like the concept. They can keep some funds aside moving forward to help with printing/mailing for those that do not use computers. (We will need to make a specific request). Also, we will have some on hand at the town hall to give away. She is to keep them updated as needed.

Clarification on whether there would be two newsletters or one (one, we will work with Katie. Heffernon met with Katie and she is also on board with this idea).

Action items follow up from 9.10 meeting;

We will, subject to the number of pieces needed by the town, stuff a one sheet “ad” about the new newsletter in with the tax bill in December.

Cost of printing discussed. Some members knowledgeable on this topic felt the quote recieved from Silver Direct was high and suggested going back to Gem. (Heffernon)

Given the cost of a full mailing we discuss moving forward with the online version and the short print run of those needed for non-tech people.

Discussion about QR Code. Some confusion about emailing this and functionality. We can have both the code and the link. We can email to the current list that the town has which Christine manages. Kevin’s list may not be used for promotional information. There is mention of the rec list, but Ashlee sends her info out through the town as well.

LeClair has created a basic format for us to use for layout. Since we will need assistance with this. Russell has connected with Bob Audette, a retired reporter and he would like to get

involved and he can advise on this. We need this information before we can determine how to move forward and assign tasks. (There were many suggestions on formatting. Intro paragraphs with links as an online newspaper would function. Drop downs for specific departments (?)). Also, it is determined that the content will not change from letter to letter. (No interim updates). There is discussion of creating a calendar and how that would work. Something that is updated on a regular basis. Would this be the same as the current calendar (again drop downs) or should be apart from governance? Should SGC committee manage this? Heffernon will bring it up with SGC.

Discussion of how this committee will move forward because the newsletter will need ongoing volunteers. Heffernon reminds the committee that we discussed this at the last meeting noting that this would be necessary for us to move forward with this project and there was agreement. The temperature within the group is that there are enough of us who are willing to assist and we can always recruit others.

Explanation of the Google folder for everyone.

Discussion of how to get people to sign up for the newsletter. We cannot ask them to do so prior to the Town's website changeover on the Swanzey site. (There is a possibility that information will be lost and we do not want to have to redo this). We determine that we can set up an email address and use this as the place that sign -ups are made and this information will be dropped into the appropriate format when the changeover happened. (We should come together quickly on how to promote ASAP). Carrol graciously offers to manage this. Additionally, would the schools be willing to promote this? When we are ready Heffernon can follow up with SAU.

Discussion of tabling at event (as discussed previously). Heffernon has verified that we are welcome at Rec Dept events as well as on Election Day (provided we adhere to town policy). Heffernon and LeClair agree to table at Trunk or Treat. (10/24 3:00- 5:00) Richards, LeClair and Carroll are willing to take shifts on election day. We determine that morning rush, lunchtime and end of day are best. Labelle can keep an eye when the table is not staffed. (11/3 8:00 until 7:00).

Determined that Russell will speak with Bob Audette and find times when he would be free to meet with us, let Heffernon know and she will send out dates to the committee.

Motion to Adjourn 6:50 Accepted.