Agenda 9.22.25 SGC

Swanzey Governance Committee
Meeting Agenda for Monday, September 22th, 2025
5:30 pm, Whitcomb Hall

I. Call to order

Approve meeting notes of 9.3.25

II. Meeting Times

1. Would you like me to provide electronic invites for those of you who would like it to populate your calendars.
2. **Who would be willing to take notes if Susan is not available**? (Best choice is a person who is willing to do this on her or his computer)

III. Old Business - Town Meeting

1. Presentation by Lee Dunham on history of town hall/government
2. Let's remember that we are not only recommending a new form of government, but also a better way for that government to communicate with it's citizens. We determined steps of how to move forward

   a. Initial post is up, now we all need to share. Who is willing to be responsible for responding on different outlets? Can we be careful to not respond to negative feedback from non-citizen trolls?
   b. Do we need to track where the information has been shared (i.e. what email lists, what facebook/other social media sites, physical locations so that we do not miss any opportunities?
   c. Who has strong writing skills that would be able to create an article for the town newsletter? (One person creates a draft, another edits). Then we as a committee can approve it.
   d. Should we now have our meetings available via Zoom (or whatever the town uses)when possible for citizens to watch?
   e. Request to Danny Mitchell has been made, as well as request for historical presentation from Lee Dunham
   f. Pick date for mock town meeting and confirm use of Whitcomb Hall. We should get this into the newsletter (We do want this to be taped). What topics specifically do we want to present? What situations do we want to come up? Should we have a sub group to plan this?
   g. Can we write tonight the next few posts (split into two groups to brainstorm, then come together and choose content). Remember to keep it light and fun.
   h. Discuss lack of unexcused attendance by some members, should we ask them to step off of the committee?
   i. Is there anything we should NOT concern ourselves with?

III. Other Business

1. Follow up on budget committee response from the Selectboard.
2. Any other new business?

IV.Next Meeting Time(s):

V. Adjournment

Mandate: Our task is to gather information, and explore the pros and cons of different forms of town governance in addition to the possible return of a town meeting format. Should we determine a recommended plan we need to find a way to meet with and hear from the town residents as well as submit a proposal to the Select Board and the town by late November for eventual inclusion on the 2026 Warrant. This is subject to change based on the Selectboards charge.