

TOY TOWN PARTNERSHIP
WINCHENDON ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2014
109 Front St., 4th Floor Robinson-Broadhurst Conference Room

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WINCHENDON, MASS.

Present: Dave Romanowski, Chairman
Don O'Neil
John Deline
Pastor J. Lillie

Linda Daigle, Secretary
Jane LaPointe
Ken LaBrack
Steve Haddad

Absent: Colleen Laperriere, Myranda Bishop

Documents presented at meeting:

- Meeting Minutes:
Wednesday, October 22, 2014 (filed)
 - Fall Festival Financial Spreadsheet (attached)
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Chairman Dave Romanowski called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

- Review of Minutes from previous meeting – John moved for approval; Ken seconded. By vote of all aye, the minutes were approved.
- Draft Master Plan
 - o Additional Comments for review with Tighe and Bond – Page Czepiga, Project Planner for Tighe and Bond is still working on the amendments discussed at our last meeting.
- Harvest Festival/Open House Sept. 27, 2014
 - o Financial Report - Linda reported the cost to date for the event was \$4,048.04. We took in \$740.00 for vendor receipts and the dessert auction netting the event cost to \$3,308.04
- Funding Project Review
 - o Converse One Hundred Year Fund
 - o Alternate Plan(s) to Fund Project due to Town's Recent Financial Crisis

The Committee discussed the financial crisis the Town is facing and realized it was not the time to go before the Town in seeking to fund the purchase of Ingleside. They did decide to put a warrant article in for Fall Town Meeting for the non-binding support of the purchase of Ingleside and also for the intended intention to dedicate the funds from the Converse One Hundred Year Fund earmarked for Parks to be allocated to Ingleside. The Committee understood that a current Town Meeting can't bind a future Town Meeting but garnering the support at this time would help in the process of future ways of funding the project. The Fall Special Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 24th. A draft STM Warrant article will be discussed at the next meeting. We hoped the Ingleside project could be good news at Town Meeting a bright light, a positive piece to this serious Town Meeting. Pastor J said it's also a way for us to ask the Town for help. This is actually creating collaboration and what this is all about. At some point this project is going to have to go from this table to everyone out there. The Winchendon School is doing what they can; this committee is doing everything we know we can do. Now if you, the community

supports this, it can become a reality but only as a community that comes together. This can prosper the Town. Fresh ideas are welcomed.

It was discussed it made sense to speak with The Winchendon School. They will be invited to meet with us next week at an earlier time at 4:00 p.m. The Town Manager would be invited as well feeling it was important he be in attendance. Dave and Jane will work on an email requesting their attendance.

Questions and concerns we'd like to discuss with The Winchendon School were:

- Due to the financial crisis the Town is facing, do you think the Board of Directors would be willing to donate this property to the Town?
- If not able to donate the property to the Town, would the Board of Directors be willing to drop the price? Can they help us out in any way?
- What is their timeline?
- Do they have any suggestions/ideas of the Town to finance the property? How can we make this work?
- Can they float the note – pay them \$35,000 a year until other funding is ascertained?
- Possible grants available to us to work with

o Contribution to Open Space and Recreation Plan

After a brief discussion of the need to update this plan in order for the Town and this committee to apply for many grants that require an updated plan, Jane moved the Committee put aside \$5,000 of some of our remaining grant funds from Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation to make available towards the Open Space and Recreation Plan; Don seconded. The Conservation Commission will be asked to up their portion from \$5,000 to \$7,000 and Ken will speak with the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority. By a vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

Don moved to ask permission from Robinson-Broadhurst to allow us to use \$5,000 of the awarded grant for the Ingleside Project to put towards the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Steve seconded. By a vote of all aye, the motion carried unanimously.

o Robinson-Broadhurst Grant Application for 2015 – The application is not due until the end of December. We have some time to think about this.

— Public/Civic/Government Outreach

o Community Engagement

- The Second Annual Community Forum will be the next step in our outreach. It was decided it would be held after the Special Town Meeting.
- Pastor J mentioned C.cada program at Cornerstone Church will be having the annual Christmas caroling event and is opening it up to all as sort of a Makerspace project. He has a van that can hold thirty people. They usually go to Hyde Park, Ipswich Drive, Broadview, go into Gardner and then go back to the Church. It's a two hour event. Twenty people have signed up so far. He has two teams, one in Gardner and one here. He'll put the information in the newspaper. He might need help with transportation if many more sign up and/if additional locations are added. He should know more the Friday after Thanksgiving.

- Schedule of Meetings – Toy Town Partnership is meeting Monday, Nov. 3 at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Town Hall. Jane, Linda, Pastor J, John, Don, Ken and Dave were hoping to attend. We will speak to them about the 501c3.
- Support Systems – Not discussed.

— Social Media – Not discussed.

— Website – Not Discussed

— New Business – N/A

— Old Business – N/A

— Adjournment – Don moved to adjourn; Steve seconded. By a vote of all aye, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daigle
Secretary