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MEET BELMONT PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY OCTOBER 2, 2018
TOWN HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 1, 7:00 PM
Minutes by Valerie Krempus

2018 DEC -3 AM 9:13

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present at the meeting were chair Lisa Scudder, Emily Ferris, Valerie Krempus, Ashley Lang, Chay Lim, Natalie Leino, and Brian Saper.

II. APPROVAL OF 07/31/18 MINUTES

The minutes of the July 31 and August 28 meetings were approved.

III. DISCUSSION OF THE COMMUNITY INFORMATION FAIR REVIEWS

Ashley presented results of a survey that was distributed to Meet Belmont exhibitors. There were many positive comments, including the ability for organizations to connect with residents and each other. There were also general concerns about the challenge of the space, in particular the limited table space for exhibitors, awkward positioning of stools at tables, and overall noise level in the cafeteria. The question was raised, has the community information fair outgrown the space at Chenery? After further discussion the committee agreed that there may be ways to optimize the space or different options for arranging the tables at Chenery.

The committee also discussed the challenge of providing name tags for exhibitors and possible alternatives for next year's event. Should the committee pre-print name tags for each organization?

One survey responder mentioned that it was difficult to reach the committee. The committee discussed an error with listing the email address on the town website which has been resolved.

The committee discussed having an information booth for the Meet Belmont at future events, possibly creating an email listserv which would serve as a way to notify interested people of future Meet Belmont events.

*Carol Trager joined

Lisa shared an update about the bank account for the Meet Belmont Planning Committee. It is important for future sponsors of events to ensure that checks are clearly marked for the Meet Belmont account and/or has "attn: Lisa Scudder" on the check itself.

The question of the role of the police detail was raised. Should they help direct traffic in the parking lot so that exhibitors drop off and park elsewhere, leaving space for attendees?

Possible additions for next year - performances or activities by exhibiting organizations? Designated table for Meet Belmont Planning Committee?

IV. DISCUSSION OF TALK OF THE TOWN

Carol Trager, who organized past Talk of the Town events, gave an overview of Talk of the Town. The event serves as a way to connect Belmont residents to notable, interesting individuals who live in Belmont in a Ted-talk format. The first year had four notable adult speakers. Last year, adults spoke for a maximum of 20 minutes, students for 5 minutes. Last year's event featured two adults and two student speakers and that were well received but had a different feel than the first year.

The event is held at Chenery Auditorium. The committee discussed a few possible speakers for this year's event and whether we would like to keep the format the same as last year. Carol will take the lead in reaching out to speakers for this year's event. The committee will aim to confirm the 3rd Tuesday of March, the 19th, for the event. The plan for this year will be to keep the 3 adults and 2 student speaker format.

V. GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING

Lisa will work on putting together a meeting calendar that outlines meetings on the first Thursday of every month going forward.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A.) NEXT MEETING: November 1 from 7-9 PM

B.) Natalie informed the other members that typically committees provide a report to the board of selectmen. Meet Belmont may want to consider reporting on the Meet Belmont Community Information Fair in the near future. Lisa will reach out.

C.) Funding for Talk of the Town - has previously been sponsored by the town

D.) Ashley raised the idea of "Welcome to Belmont" tote bags, similar to other towns. She will try to find more information.

VIII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

*The next meeting was held on November 8th, 2018 due to scheduling conflicts for the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Scudder

Chair

Meet Belmont Planning Committee