

Vision Implementation Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2015

2015 NOV 20 PM 4:07

George Durante called VIC meeting to order at 7:08 PM on August 18, 2015 in Room 1 of Town Hall.

The following people were present: George Durante, Chair, Natalie Leino, Vice Chair, Paul Solomon, Donald Mercier, Jennifer Page, and Doug John.

The Minutes of the July 21, 2015 were unanimously approved after some corrections.

Survey Report Status

George reported that the presentation of the survey results to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) had been bumped from the agenda of the August BOS meeting due to expected time to be required to deal with a pressing issue. Currently, the presentation of the Survey Report to the BOS has not been rescheduled. It was agreed that George would contact David Kale (Town Administrator) to discuss possible ways to expedite approval of the report. The committee agreed that approval of the report before the Meet Belmont event would be most desirable, as that would allow for distribution of the report to the large number of people and Town Department staff in attendance.

Next Initiative Updates

a) Belmont Ted Talks

The committee discussed the purpose of this initiative and the general consensus was reached that our hope is to build a greater feeling of community by providing events where townspeople can come together and learn about outstanding residents and their expertise while becoming more acquainted with each other.

The general feeling was that the "Ted Talk" events should be held quarterly, skipping summer months. The format would be a speaker making a 20 to 25 minute presentation to be followed by a Question and Answer period and a Reception period possibly with light refreshments. These presentations could be recorded and aired on the community television channels.

Next Steps: Compile a list of potential speakers, venues, and best timing of the events.

b) Government Classes

The committee discussed the challenge of attracting a wide audience to participate and learn how town government is structured and ways they might become involved. Possible formats

suggested were multi week course with experts explaining different aspects of town government or a single event covering the most important topics. Reaching out to the High School community was seen as an important avenue to increase awareness on this issue. Formulating a brochure to be distributed to new residents in the Town Clerk's office was also discussed. Recording and airing of the class or series of classes by Belmont Media Center would be a valuable method of reaching a wider audience. The possibility of making the course part of the adult education program might be a possibility.

Next Steps: The VIC Subgroup for the government course will work on a course outline and proposal for the best format.

Meet Belmont

Preparations for the event are going well. Flyer distribution was very successful. Jennifer said that more help was needed for the intake effort during the first half of the event. Committee members indicated willingness to adjust as needed to meet the need.

Next Meeting Goals

- a) Report on outcome of conversation with David Kale and Survey Report Status.
- b) Discussion of venues, dates, and speakers for Belmont Ted Talks
- c) Start the outline of the Town Government course.
- d) Recap of Meet Belmont.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 15th, 2015 in Town Hall Conference Room 4.

George Durante adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Minutes submitted by Doug John