

## **BELMONT VISION 21 IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

March 21, 2002

**Members Present:** Co-Chairs Paul Emello & Jennifer Page, Joe Greene, Meg O'Brien, Ralph Jones, John Sousa, Barry Winston, Tim Higgins (non-voting).

**Absent:** Bill Hofmann, Bill Monahan

**Guests:** Sue Pizzi, Vilma DiBiase (members of the Newcomers Work Group)

**7:05 p.m.** All members being present, Co-Chair Jennifer Page opened the meeting.

Minutes from the February 21 and March 7 meetings, were approved unanimously.

Victoria Haase from the Belmont Historical Society was present and distributed a set of images from their files. These were available on disks. They will be considered for inclusion in the "Welcoming Newcomers" booklet. Barry Winston and Meg O'Brien will follow up on this and Meg O'Brien kept the disk.

**7:35 p.m.** Barry Winston then continued discussion on the remaining work on the "Welcoming Newcomers" booklet. He covered issues such as the need for and status of a bank account. A short discussion followed on the best way to create an account. It will be a general Vision 21 Account. The number of booklets was initially agreed to be 5,000 at a cost of \$1,971.00

**(7:35 p.m. Joe Greene arrived.)**

According to Sue Pizzi, the realtors (8 total) she has contacted each want a minimum of 300 booklets, preferably more. Each Realtor has committed to \$250.00. The cost of the booklet was agreed to not involve the local banks at this time. Perhaps this can occur at the next printing. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that a total of \$2,250.00 will be sought for 6,000 booklets.

- The title of the book was discussed next. It was agreed to be "Welcome!" with the text "An Introduction Guide to Belmont" as a sub-title.

- Remaining tasks include proofing the draft that Meg O'Brien has completed. She was roundly congratulated on this effort. Meg O'Brien discussed the setup of her work.

- Questions on some language and translations remain and Ralph will look into this at the high school. It is requested that he reply by April 5. Meg also needs the phone numbers checked; this must occur during the day. Ralph will check with the school to determine if there are students available to assist. (He will contact Meg.) Meg O'Brien would like some members to take pages and proof them. She will send them electronically and wants them returned by noon Thursday, March 28th. - John Sousa suggested that the co-chairs go on cable to advertise the booklets. All agreed this was a good idea.

**8:40 p.m.** Discussion turned to the Newcomers Forum held last week at the Town Hall. One new resident attended and Jennifer Page distributed notes from her discussion. Generally, the new resident was not pleased with her introduction to the Town. A brief discussion ensued. John Sousa recommended that a "Young Mothers Forum" or similar entity be added to the Committee's things to do. There was a general consensus that this was a good idea. The issue of affordability and the number of young newcomers was brought up. It was also noted that a second resident was not able to attend the Forum and

sent an E-mail that was distributed to the members. He indicated that he would be interested in getting involved.

**8:55 p.m.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Higgins,

Senior Planner

Secretary Pro Tem