

Minutes from Halifax Community Club Meeting on March 13, 2017

1581 Hanson Road, Halifax VT

Trustees: Laurel Copeland (Pres, Clerk), Gretchen Becker (VP), John Kirk (Treas), Joan Courser, Dorie Mirucki

Members: Marilyn Allen, Bonnie Brown, Art Copeland, Lynda Copeland, ~~Edie Fenton, Mary Horne, Linda Lyon~~

Guests: Penfield Chester

AGENDA

- 1) Thank you to Joan for her presidential service! – Marilyn (and Linda in absentia) presented a gift certificate from HCC for New England House. Dorie attested to the fact that Joan is at HCC all the time & Wayne contributes endless help with the Hall's upkeep and surveillance.
- 2) Condolence card for Robert Martynowski offering a memorial lunch in honor of Charlene – Sent by Laurel; offered memorial luncheon. Joan noted that this may occur this summer per a family member's communication.
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/southofboston-enterprise/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=184092212>
- 3) Someone approached Joan at Town Meeting regarding doing something at the Hall in memory of Charlene Martynowski such as planting a tree. Joan thought another picnic table with a commemorative brass plaque placed under the common tree would be nice and that HCC might kick in some of the cost as it might be much more than the person had in mind. Laurel priced tables at \$700-\$1300 for round/octagonal for 8 persons. Gretchen asks whether HCC should pay for such an item because it is only for 1 person and might set a precedent. How about a fundraiser for the balance? Dorie asked whether we should we put a cement or stone or plastic/permeable landscaping fabric pad with wooden edge under there to pick the tables up off the grass and make mowing easier?
ACTION: Joan will ask the inquiring party how much they want to put up and then have HCC raise the remainder, if they like the picnic table idea.
- 4) Dorie Mirucki's Directory of Halifax Businesses
 - a. Event to get the info
 - b. Other ways to get the info – Dorie & Marilyn manned a table with a poster at the Town Meeting 3/7/2017 and collected signatures by categories & types of services of local businesspersons. Many others showed interest; some business cards were collected. Lumber, Christmas trees, Shearer Hill Farm B&B and candles etc., housecleaning, chain saws, small engine repair, builder on the way to the PO, free-range chicken eggs, cabinet-maker, plumbing & handiwork are some of the businesses in town. We need to reach out for personal care, dog-walking and similar providers. Marilyn will ask Patty Dow to place this list in the Clerk's Office. It is free advertising for local businesses. Dorie can call and go house to house in next 2 weeks. Could have volunteers be responsible for contacting people in their area, snowballing approach.

- c. Penfield talked about and passed around the Tunbridge booklets that were put together and sold as a fundraiser.
- d. We could include what we have so far in the next Newsletter. Could put up a poster in PO asking for businesspersons to visit the Town Office. We could have a notebook there to collect more names/data. Could put a notice about this on the Town of Halifax website. The town has a website listing already that we could add to, <https://halifaxvermont.com/about/community/halifax-business-services/>. Targeting mid-May to help the seasonal service providers. Data to collect: Name, type of service, contact info, website.

ACTION: Marilyn will ask Patty Dow to place notebook in the Clerk's Office.

ACTION: Dorie will go house to house over the next 2 weeks.

ACTION: Marilyn will make 1 more poster to be posted at the town office with the notebook into which businesses can be written.

ACTION: Laurel will type up any business cards obtained.

- 5) Request for unpaid dues & newsletter fees for 2017 – when are they due? Can we let members know? Art volunteers to collect the checks / cash but preferably send to HCC / Joan Courser PO Box 27 West Halifax VT 05358. By July 1st – mention in the Newsletter. The newsletter has separated off from the HCC; the Newsletter fees are no longer collected by HCC; checks should be made to “Newsletter” and sent to Joan Courser. Bernice is also writing as is Doug Parkhurst, John Kirk.
- 6) Update on non-profit status – filing for federal exemption with Form 1023-EZ for public charity; fee is \$275. – Done; check has cleared.
- 7) Town Meeting on March 7th
 - a. Blurb justifying the Town of Halifax giving HCC \$2000 again – This was included in the warnings; the budget item was passed; the money will come in July.
 - b. Notice re Dorie's Directory to be read by moderator Paul Blais – This occurred twice during the Town Meeting.
- 8) Piano for the Hall? (Joan & Laurel) – FreeCycle often has free pianos (Gretchen). Dorie is concerned that the unheated space will increase need for tuning (\$100-\$140 per tuning). Art and Laurel thought this was a minor issue. Mostly it is thought HCC does not need a piano in the hall. Music events in the hall – would most likely not involve pianists. Tabled.
- 9) Discuss improving the website we already have as part of the town's website. (Art) – Not high priority; tabled.
- 10) Further discuss ideas about increasing our membership. (Art) – Dorie commented that during the Town Meeting, Peggy Rafus introduced herself. Peggy could be an asset to the HCC because she bridges “this division in the town”. Inviting her into HCC could help bring us together. “Travel [across social groups] is fatal to bigotry and prejudice.” (Dorie paraphrasing Mark Twain) Start with the potluck. No politics! Early June?
 - ACTION:** Sunday June 5th early afternoon 2-?? PM.
 - ACTION:** John will send invitations to all contributors to HCC.
 - ACTION:** Bonnie: Patty Dow would have names of new residents.
 - ACTION:** Joan will put announcement in Newsletter.
 - ACTION:** We need a poster for June 5th Community Potluck. Joan & Laurel will ask

Katie Shafer on Friday at Senior Meal.

ACTION: Bonnie is willing to take it to a printer.

- 11) Penfield: would like to present to Seniors on Friday re Advanced Care Planning. Agreed.
- 12) Penfield: would like to volunteer to do yoga in Hall right after Tai Chi while hall is warm starting in April. Ask \$5 in the jar for the heat. Ad in Front Porch Forum. Agreed.
- 13) Consider whether we should adopt Robert's Rules for our meetings, and if we do, what the meeting should do when confronted with a situation in which Robert's Rules seem to have become counter-intuitive (Art) – such a small group do not need Robert's Rules of Order. Tabled.
- 14) Provide a forum for a community discussion of zoning (Art) – Art feels that HCC has already done this through Dorie's actions to build a sense of community.
- 15) Other business – Gretchen asked whether anyone knows Chris Parkins; he offered to give a computer course. Lives across from Rick and Sue on Jacksonville Stage. He could ask \$10 and give \$5 to HCC and keep \$5 himself each attendee. Agreed.
ACTION: Gretchen will ask him what he had in mind / can do.
- 16) Bonnie – “Etre et Avoir” documentary about rural French schoolroom. Art offered their living room. Whitingham Library as venue? Marilyn – what about a mini-film festival with Red Balloon and a film about 2 shy chocolatiers? Ratatouille! Would HCC be behind a free showing of “Etre et Avoir”? Yes. Licensing requirements of copyrighted films suggest that if we fail to pay the license, we can only show a film in someone's home. Art volunteered this house.
- 17) Treasurer's Report – since 1/1/2017 we have spent \$929 on propane (most of this), electricity (\$92.94 for 2 months), and 501c3 application. Income \$757. Senior Solutions, hall rental, tai chi have brought in income. Bank account still healthy.
- 18) Joan asked the HCC President to send a get well card to Edie. She has been very ill.
- 19) Joan would like to see lawn crew at Hall in mid-May.
ACTION: Volunteers are needed.
- 20) Next Regular Meeting will occur at 6:45 pm on Monday, April 10, 2017, here at 1581 Hanson as far as we know.