

## WSVC minutes 3.17.20 submitted by Steve Graham

Call to order: 6:35 PM

In attendance: Joe, Steve, Karden, Karen, Bill, Kathleen (via Google Hangout)

Topics:

- Review of Prior Minutes
  - Motion:
    - Detail: Accept prior minutes as written
    - Proposed: Kathleen
    - Seconded: Karen
    - Discussion: None
    - Vote: 6-0
- Budgets
  - Summary: WSVC budget ~\$1400 to cover Website, Tree walk, and Marketing.
  - \$8000 available for beautification. It is unknown who directs these funds - Marie believes WSVC at least has oversight of this.
  - Finance committee meeting approved the budgets. The next step is Select board approval and then go before the town at the meeting to defend budget and get it approved.
  - Next year, we will go for a bigger budget.
  - We are unsure when the next steps / town meeting will be due to virus concerns – we will wait and see.
- Time Allocation per Agenda Item
  - Ideas:
    - Bottom up approach – start each agenda from the bottom and work your way up.
    - Timer – Set a timer with hard stop on each agenda. Have a timekeeper who enforces this.
  - Motion:
    - Detail: Allocate a set time box for the chairman's top X agenda items with free time discussion topics at the end. At the beginning of each meeting, decide a timekeeper for the meeting. Allocate chairman time to start/end each meeting with opening / closing.
    - Proposed: Karden
    - Seconded: Steve
    - Discussion:
      - Karen: Allot Joe time to start / end each meeting.
      - Steve: Chairman pick top 4 items open discussion at the end.
    - Vote: 6-0
- Potential New Members:
  - Motion:
    - Detail: Ask Tom Lipiczky to join the committee, Joe to get select board approval.
    - Proposed: Karen

- Seconded: Kathleen
  - Discussion: None
  - Vote: 6-0
- Pole Banners
  - Jennifer Knopf working with Beautification Committee on this. We will wait to hear proposal from them. This has not been financed yet.
    - We should clarify with the board how we fund projects on an ongoing basis – do we need to wait until the annual budget is proposed every year in order to receive funding or do we have some discretion to move things forward?
  - Open question: should this be a Village Association initiative?
- Richmond Land Trust:
  - They will help, but are not really willing for a true partnership – they are too far ahead and have their own agenda.
- Property Tax Program for Elderly:
  - There are very few people that qualify for a program in GB, however, there was some success in other areas this was attempted (Richmond & Cambridge).
  - Let's keep this on the agenda so that we can see if we can find a program sponsor and also ask for a copy of Richmond's plan for this so we can follow along with what they do (Marie).
- Affordable Housing:
  - Randy should look into existing models for this, figure out how funding has happened in the past and see if we can apply that model.
  - We probably need to take this on a sub-committee and propose something to the select board.
  - Other ideas:
    - In-law apartments.
    - Tiny houses.
    - See what Richmond is doing – possible changes to zoning laws to bring income in.
    - Find someone to take all these Richmond-based proposals on.
    - Tom Lipiczky is very interested in these items.
- Open space
  - Another potential Richmond-related item.
  - Richmond made a town video to save their school – very impressive with good results.
    - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I\\_SJY7fAKZk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_SJY7fAKZk)
    - Eric & Doane could contribute / support if we want to do something similar.
    - Potentially need a lot more discussion: what story do we want to tell? We need a honed message before we dive into this.
    - Let's keep this on the agenda – our mandate is to propose things to the select board, we could just focus on pushing ideas, we don't necessarily need to have all the details solved.
- Open Discussion:
  - Let's consider leveraging the website to keep pushing our ideas / marketing content.

- Maybe time to invite the public again to another meeting and get feedback. We could do this virtually or through the Local Yokel or with a questionnaire on the website.
- Do we need a consultant to drive some of our ideas?
- Look into funding options – cultural council, self-funding.
  - Question: should we change our mission / vision?
- Question: should we consider aligning underneath the planning board? They have clout / funding.
- Question: should we get in front of the select board more to influence them?
  - Idea is to get some of the other town boards to join our meetings so they can see what we do.
  - There has always been this debate between our group's role of conception vs execution – we founded as a conceptual idea/think tank group but we want to participate in execution and aren't necessarily sure how.
- Soup Kitchen & Aid
  - Proposal to select board could have some traction right now due to the current crisis that's going on.
  - Maybe we can find someone who is already doing this and follow in their footsteps.
  - Let's discuss next meeting.
- End Meeting
  - Motion:
    - Detail: Proposal to end meeting at 7:45
    - Proposed: Bill
    - Seconded: Kathleen
    - Discussion: None
    - Vote: 6-0