

Hartford Ad Hoc Committee on Coronavirus Response Meeting Minutes

12/09/20 @ 4:00 PM | Via Zoom

Committee Attendance: Kristi Clemens (Chair), Simon Dennis (Secretary), Becky Chollet, Brett Mayfield, Martha McDaniel (Vice-Chair), P.J. Shehan, Dan Fraser, Deborah Scribner, Michelle Boleski.

Kristi called the meeting to order at 4:04 and took attendance and called for Changes to the Agenda. **Kristi called for amendments to the 11/11 minutes. Martha moved to approve. Dan seconded. All were in favor and the minutes passed.**

Kristi called for amendments to the 11/25 minutes. PJ moved approval, Becky seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were passed.

Reports from the town

Brett reported that we are doing better than most Towns. Windsor had 10 cases yesterday and 60 in the last two weeks. Hartford has the most cases. Hanover and Lebanon have 27 active cases. Compliance is good in our businesses. There was a large gathering on Sunday of >100 people. That is one of the things that is keeping this going. The Governor would like to go forward (not backward) but if it gets over the 200 average-cases-per-day mark for the State, he will begin to roll back the opening. The Hartland gathering was for the purpose of rallying efforts to oppose closures and restrictions.

Michelle Boleski introduced herself. She serves on the School Board and is a small business owner that has been negatively impacted by the quarantine period. Michelle will be a new member that will liaison to the School District.

Slow-the-Spread

Martha reported that the Communications Subcommittee, and particularly Becky Chollet has done enormous work on behalf of the Town.

PJ reported that many restaurants are on the edge of closing due to the lack of customers. It has been quiet in downtown WRJ. There has been a real hangup with regards to the \$75M at the State Level. The lack of action from the Federal Government is also causing a real struggle. Most calls are inquiring about available money.

Michelle reported that ACCD had established that the greatest unmet need was in the meals and hotel accommodations, which would receive 100% of the need and the rest of the pot would go to everyone else. Checks should go out within the next two weeks. Kristi reported that the system was not sufficiently user-friendly to make sense.

Dan suggested that local supermarket could donate some portion of their income to local restaurants, because they are receiving some of their business.

Communications

Becky reported that all five banners are up and upright, one in each village. All but five yard signs of the 50 are installed in public spaces. The window clings have been less popular. But they are still working on this concept, perhaps going virtual with a holiday theme. They are poised to revamp our Safe Thanksgiving Guide to apply to Christmas and are waiting until the Governor's announcement to come this Friday. Perhaps window clings could go on to Automobiles?

The Subgroup had a breakthrough with the Bugbee Senior Center, that is interested in using the Subgroup's graphics in the materials that go out.

Review of the Message to the Town Report

Please review and send their suggestions to Martha and Kristi. The committee has produced a lot over the past nine months. Martha said she tried to keep it positive and to include everyone that has helped us. Please feel free to toot your own horn. 12/31 is the deadline, but we are asking for feedback prior to Wednesday the 16th.

Other topics

Becky asked if it is appropriate to use allocated funds for posts to hang the banner, mask kiosks, and bags. **Kristi moved to approve the allocation of \$124.69 Jay Zanolini, and \$103.52 to Becky Chollet for expenses related to the Masks on Hartford Campaign. Brett seconded and all were in favor.**

Michelle thanked everyone for the work of this committee. She suggested that perhaps on Christmas Eve, if everyone could ring a bell at 6:00 PM, it might build community from a safe distance. Kristi praised Hartford Parks and Rec. for putting up the Christmas lights.

We will be in touch about whether we will meet on 12/23 or if our next meeting will be on 1/6/21, both at 4:00 PM.

Kristi adjourned the meeting at 4:49.

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary.