

Education Committee - Town of Arrowsic

Arrowsic Town Hall, September 2 2015

[Draft by Anita Lichman]

Participants: Camille Kauffunger, Dena Bachman, Anita Lichman

Agenda:

1. Approve last meeting minutes.
2. Review "next steps" from previous Committee meeting.
3. New business.
4. Fall festival.

1. Approve last meeting minutes.

All those who attended the last meeting approved the minutes. **Anita** agreed to forward the August 2015 meeting notes to the Town webmaster.

2. Review "next steps" from previous Committee meeting.

- A. July minutes were sent to the Town webmaster by Anita.
- B. Camille followed up with the scholarship committee about their annual yard sale and shared the September 12th date. It was agreed that **Camille** will represent the Committee by offering a helping hand at the yard sale. **Committee members** agreed to drop any items for the yard sale to Camille by September 12.
- C. Camille confirmed the upcoming deadline submission for the Arrow and identified the remaining deadlines this year as August, November, February & May two weeks prior to the middle of the month.
- D. Camille circulated the remaining Board meeting dates for the year and members of the Committee signed up for coverage of the meetings. **Camille** agreed to reach out to David, Committee alternative to secure coverage for the final two School Board meetings.
- E. **Camille** is in the process of scheduling a fall meeting with Tim Harkins.
- F. Camille shared that it was agreed that the Committee would stay in touch with the Select Board about the collection and dissemination of information related to budgetary information that can help the town make decisions related to spending in the future.

3. New business.

- A. It was discussed that **Camille** would forward a formal message to Bill Sadeoff to advertise for the open Committee position that Wendy had just completed a term. **Camille & Dena** both agreed to reach out to Arrowsic community members to fill the position.
- B. It was also noted that there were 26 box tops submitted and the Committee would rotate donation of the box tops to the schools where Arrowsic students are represented. The **Committee** will determine an appropriate time/amount/cycle to check and make the donations.
- C. **Camille** agreed to confirm the receipt of the student list to review in October 2015.

4. Fall festival planning.

David confirmed that the fire station was available November 8th and 15th. After checking the RSU1 calendar for conflicting events it was agreed that the Fall Festival will take place November 15th 1-3pm at the Town Hall (with the fire truck available). It was discussed that **Camille, Anita, and Dena** would reach out to community members to invite participation in the festival related to hosting an activity, bringing food, or helping out in some other way. It was also discussed that the event would be for the entire population of Arrowsic, versus solely focused on families. **Camille** agreed to draft an announcement and have it circulated through the town electronic announcement process.

4. School board meeting.

Dena attended the school board meeting on behalf of the Committee and shared information.

It was noted that the preliminaries (including introductions etc.) for the school board meeting start at 5:45pm and the actual meeting portion starts at 6pm.

A straw poll was described as non binding vote to take the temperature of the community. There will be an upcoming straw vote in regards to the new site for the high school where one site will be voted upon. Dena mentioned that the board and Consultant the board hired to facilitate the process of a new high school highlighted that it has not been decided to build new or renovate the existing property, nor have the actual availability or prices of the properties being explored been confirmed. The Consultant reported that the process is ahead of schedule based on the expectation of the time and effort Alumni inclusion would require. **Camille** agreed to check in with Karen Robbins to see if Karen is continuing to connect the Town to the High School building project. Lastly it was noted there would be more community meetings in late September/early October and the **Committee** agreed to ensure the Town had representatives at the upcoming meetings to ensure information is shared with Town members to help make informed decisions on behalf of the Town.

\$315k of unused subsidies were returned to RSU1 and three options were discussed on what to do with the returned funds. 1) Give the money back to the tax payers. 2) Put the money in a reserve to balance the FY 2017 budget. or 3) Re-budget the current FY and call a vote to re-approve the budget. The Board voted to return the money to the tax payers, it was noted that the other non Board members meeting attendees were there to voice their opinion that the funds should be returned to the tax payers (Bath & Woolwich tax payers only).

The Board is moving forward to develop a grid identifying the types of standardized testing the RSU1 participates in and the time allotted for each of those tests. The Board also agreed to define and be prepared to articulate goals of standardized tests for the district. **Camille** agreed to touch base with Tim Harkins about the best way for Arrowsic to weigh in on the topic of standardized testing.

Next Steps

1. Anita to submit August 2015 Committee notes to the Town webmaster.
2. **Camille** will represent the Committee by offering a helping hand at the yard sale. **Committee members** agreed to drop any items for the yard sale to Camille by September 12.
3. **Camille** agreed to reach out to David & another Committee alternative to secure coverage for the final two School Board meetings.
4. **Camille** will continue to reach out to Tim Harkins to coordinate Committee efforts to support his role and aim for a December 2015 meeting.
5. **Camille** would forward a formal message to Bill Sadeoff to advertise for the open Committee position that Wendy had just completed a term.
6. **Camille & Dena** both agreed to reach out to Arrowsic community members to fill the position.
7. The **Committee** will determine an appropriate time/amount/cycle to check and make the donations of the box tops.
8. **Camille, Anita, and Dena** would reach out to community members to invite participation in the festival related to hosting an activity, bringing food, or helping out in some other way.
9. **Camille** agreed to draft an announcement about the fall festival and have it circulated through the town electronic announcement process.
10. **Camille** agreed to check in with Karen Robbins to see if Karen is continuing to connect the Town to the High School building project.
11. **Committee** agreed to ensure the Town had representatives at the upcoming meetings for the High School Building process to ensure information is shared with Town members to help make informed decisions on behalf of the Town.
12. **Camille** agreed to touch base with Tim Harkins about the best way for Arrowsic to weigh in on the topic of standardized testing.

Committee's Annual Tasks

- 1) Create annual monthly meeting schedule & post on town calendar, Google Town calendar, and Arrow publication. (AUGUST)
- 2) Identify Arrow newsletter submission dates, coordinate submission dates with Committee meetings to ensure timely announcements/material from the Committee in the newsletter (2015-2016 months of publication are listed as August, November, February, May). (AUGUST)
- 3) Secure RSU1 School Board meeting schedule & assign Committee members to attend & report back to the Committee (SEPTEMBER)
- 4) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (OCTOBER)
- 5) Announce Pre-K information session & RSU1 school registration deadline. (MARCH)
- 6) Town Annual Report (MARCH)
- 7) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (APRIL)
- 8) Submit annual Committee budget request to Select Board. (APRIL)
- 9) Prepare for Town meeting presentation. (JUNE)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Next Committee meeting is October 7th at 6pm at Town Hall.