

Education Committee - Town of Arrowsic
Arrowsic Town Hall , January 20, 2016
{Notes drafted by Anita Lichman}

Participants: Dena Bachman, Erin Hart, Tim Harkins, Camille Kauffunger, Anita Lichman

Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Introduction & Coordination with RSU1 School Board

1. Approve Minutes

Minutes were approved. Anita will forward final minutes from the December 2015 meeting to the Town webmaster to post for public viewing.

2. Introduction & Coordination with RSU1 School Board

There was a lengthy discussion of the Committee's role and coordination with the RSU1 School Board. Tim Harkins, RSU1 Board Chair joined the meeting and provided a history of the RSU1's formation, local politics, and current priorities. Tim focused on two main areas that the Committee should consider focusing on to support and coordinate with the RSU1 school board 1) connecting town members who need support to the district and 2) sharing communications from RSU1 to increase the spread/reach of the information throughout the Town.

Tim also encouraged the Committee to attend budget workshops to gain a better understanding of the school budget process and outcomes. There was a detailed discussion about the best times for the Committee to be connected and influence decision making including coordinating Committee meetings to allow for time to review the RSU1 board meeting agenda prior to the RSU1 board meeting. There was a summary of a decision making cycle citing a beginning, middle, and end of the cycle and Tim noted that budget discussions were included in the beginning phases of the decision making cycle and the RSU1 board meetings where there is public comment was towards the end of the decision making cycle.

Tim also left the Committee with some guiding questions for the Committee to consider when doing business.

- Whose needs are we representing?
- What is good education for Arrowsic students?
- How do we support the least supported families?

3) Other

Kindergarten registration was discussed, plan to share the news with the town will be coordinated. Camille confirmed attendance at next school board meeting.

NEXT STEPS:

- 1) Coordinate future Committee meetings with RSU1 board meeting schedule, to allow time for the Committee to review the RSU1 board schedule ahead of time and gain feedback or insight into meeting agenda items before the meeting. (Camille)
- 2) Submit the Committee notes from December to the Town webmaster. (Anita)
- 3) Review Committee goals and outcomes for 2016. (Committee)

4) Coordinate Kindergarten registration announcement.

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) Identify date & outreach schedule for the Fall Festival., create event work plan. (SEPTEMBER)
- 5) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (OCTOBER)
- 6) Announce Pre-K information session & RSU1 school registration deadline. (MARCH)
- 7) Town Annual Report (MARCH)
- 8) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (APRIL)
- 9) Submit annual Committee budget request to Select Board. (APRIL)
- 10) Prepare for Town meeting presentation. (JUNE)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next Committee meeting is February 3rd, 6pm at Town Hall.