

**What's Next Middlesex Forum
Planning Meeting #3 Minutes
June 18, 2018
Middlesex Town Offices**

Present: Honi Bean Barrett, Joanne Breidenstein, Barbara Buckley, Mark Bushnell, Delia Clark, Susan Clark, Jill Drury, Vic Dwire, Mike Kline, Howard Morse, Linda Morse, Tim Murphy, Mitch Osiecki, Lauri Scharf, Liz Scharf, Janette Shaffer, Dave Shepard, David Smith, Susan Warren

1. Welcome

Following a meeting welcome from Susan attendees introduced themselves and Delia provided a brief overview of the What's Next Middlesex (WNM) process.

2. Process Discussion

Delia noted a key decision to be made was who is welcome to attend WNM:

- Middlesex residents only?
- Middlesex resident and those who work in town?
- Part time residents?

Lauri spoke in favor of including those who work in town. Susan also noted that Middlesex landowners who don't reside in town might be included. The consensus was for greater inclusion. The Friday night dinner portion of WNM, which will also be the annual Fall Harvest Dinner, will be open to anyone whether they are attending the rest of WNM or not.

3. Committees

A group of committees will be working to organize WNM and attendees had an opportunity to volunteer for a committee that interested them. The committees and members (in parentheses) were as follows:

1. Promotion and Publicity: Lauri reported that the WNM website has been established but isn't live yet. (Lauri Scharf, Liz Scharf, Dave Lawrence, Michael Levine, Mark Bushnell and Chris McVeigh)
2. Food: Organizing the Harvest Dinner on Friday and snacks and lunch on Saturday. (Mitch Osiecki, Honi Bean Barrett, Randy George, Liz Scharf, Mike Kline, Barbara Buckley)
3. Logistics and Set Up: Coordinate with Rumney School. (Joanne, Aimee Toth, Dave Lawrence, Dave Shepard, Susan Clark)
4. Youth and Senior Involvement: Encourage participation from these segments of the Middlesex community. (Sorsha Anderson, Eric Scharf, Vic Dwire, Jen Campbell, Lucy Wood, Susan Warren)
5. Small Group Facilitators Coordination: (Susan Clark and Sandy Levine)
6. Child care: Community Connections may be an option. (Jill Drury, Jen Campbell, Ursula Stanley, Honi Bean Barrett)
7. Creative Engagement and Artists/Businesses: Ideas to encourage attendance and promote involvement of Middlesex artists and businesses (Susan Warren, Dexter Lefavour, Liz

Scharf). Other potential members included a representative from the Band Stand Committee, August Burns and Eliot Burg.

8. Fundraising/Budget/Sponsors: Seek funds to cover the costs of the event and replace lost revenue for the Food Shelf and Rumney Healthy Foods Program since there will be no charge for the Harvest Dinner.

4. Small Group Facilitators

There will need to be 20 small group facilitators who will work in pairs. They will lose some, but not all, ability to participate in the group discussion. They will need to clearly indicate when they are speaking with their own opinion and not acting in the facilitator role.

5. Group Reports

Promotion and Publicity:

- Bandstand: Advertise WNM at the bandstand site and in bandstand publicity.
- Postcards
- Face to face contact – those that committee members talk to can spread the word to others.
- Photos of around town will be displayed on the WNM website – contact Lauri at lauri.scharf@gmail.com

Food:

The Friday night dinner will be combined with the annual Harvest Dinner. Groups can be approached about sponsoring snacks. Lunch on Saturday is still under discussion, it could be catered or it could be used as a fundraiser for a group.

Creative Engagement/Artists/Businesses:

- Moving chalkboard to be set up prior to the event where people can write down questions/issues.
- Public art displays around town.
- Businesses could set up tables at the Friday dinner.
- Ways to have face to face contact or get input from those who may not be able to attend the event. The website is one avenue.

6. Next Steps

The full group will meet in July and decide on whether an August meeting is necessary. Ideally, at least one member from each work group will be able to attend. The meeting will be July 12th at 6:30