

HARTLAND AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
November 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDING: Leo Bard, Heidi Bierer, Gary Cornillaud, Jan Cornillaud, Brian Johnson (Fire Department), Richard Krueger, Douglas Kuhn, Kim Ladd, Ceci Marlow, Judy Paulsen, Gayle Roberts, Jacob Roberts, Sandy Roberts, Dwight Sachau, Gregg Schkade, Cliff Schiesel, Ginny Smoot, Jim Sparks.

Jacob Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm in the meeting room of the Hartland Insurance Agency.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of October 5, 2015 meeting

Ginny Smoot asked for a correction. The focus was on September to get good weather, not for the schools. Sandy Roberts moved, Leo Bard seconded acceptance of the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Larry Ciofu emailed a treasurer's report. He reported that the current balance is \$3,586.09. Doug Kuhn moved; Sandy Roberts seconded acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Discussion: Richard Krueger asked if the Spirit of Livingston was paid for the Heritage Day booklet printing. Jacob will follow up with Larry Ciofu. Dick asked that Jacob send him an email about the answer. The report was accepted and filed.

Epley Park

Michelle Otis emailed Jacob that an inspector for the playground equipment came out and that five handholds were broken and need replacement at \$50 each. The safety mulch has deteriorated and needs an expenditure of \$300 to replace that.

Jan Cornillaud moved that the HACC make these expenditures. Doug Kuhn seconded. Discussion: Dick asked how much mulch is that since \$300 seems low for the quality of mulch needed for the playground. Cliff Schiesel asked if this is the time for mulch activity. Gayle Roberts replied that this was just accomplished at the schools this week.

Gary Cornillaud asked if the original agreement for the maintenance of the playground included HACC repairing the equipment and replacing the mulch. Dick reported that we have replaced the mulch at least twice and that he personally has repaired equipment.

Gary also reported that he had talked with Michelle about the HACC decision on the pavilion. He also talked with Scott Bacon. Scott has suggested that HACC consider leasing Epley Park from the schools. Gary believes this speaks to the issue of how responsible HACC wants to be for Epley Park, its equipment, its on-going maintenance.

Sandy noted that the motion is a \$550 expenditure. Further question is on who will provide the labor, but that is not spelled out, although it's likely that the labor is included in the cost shared

by Michelle. Doug believes that this expenditure is really a contribution to an already tax-funded organization, the schools. Heidi Bierer asks if we have a legal liability for the condition of the equipment and playground. Dick reported that while we contributed funding for the original installation, no checks were written by HACC for the project. It was all the schools. Sandy Roberts called the question. Jim Sparks asked if the motion includes a cap on the expenditure. Jan is willing to consider an amendment to her motion of a not-to-exceed of \$550. The motion was further amended to specify how the \$550 would be used—for mulch and repair of the five handholds. The motion was approved.

Cliff asked what the status is of the pavilion. Jacob understands that it will be teared down. Gary reported that his structural engineer did respond and that he gave the name, phone number and opinion of the structural engineer to Michelle Otis as an alternative to tear-down.

Sandy suggested that there is no interest by HACC to lease Epley Park. Gary stated that the schools do not consider this a priority item for on-going maintenance. Brian Johnson asked if any one has discussed this with Hartland Township yet. Gary said that he is not aware of progress at this point—Larry Ciofu knows about the option.

Heritage Day

Heidi Bierer apologized for having pneumonia on the date of the last meeting. She was disappointed by the response of the companies in the Village. The schools put her through the wringer because they called at the last minute with requirements for placement. When it rained after making special accommodations and they did not show up, it was doubly frustrating.

Heidi believes the event has run its course. It certainly cannot be managed by one person. The community is not interested, in her opinion. Gregg Schkade believes that the people he heard from didn't know about it. Community Life is not enough. Heidi was also frustrated by a lack of budget. She just does not see the kind of attendance that warrants all the work that goes into the event. There was trouble getting the streets closed, trouble with neighbors causing an issue the day before.

It was not for lack of her effort. She had 33 different booths set up. Only 20, if that, actually showed up and stayed the day. The nonprofits with free booths have no stake in the game. Kim Ladd agreed that the weather is really a driver for attendance. But it must have a committee of at least four—someone to manage booths, someone to market, and so on.

Heidi believes that there has been much greater participation from the schools in past years. When the schools aren't there, then the audience disappears. The Loot in the Boot sale did not materialize.

Jim Sparks reported that the Farmers Market that day was also a disaster. BUT the Gem & Mineral Show, all indoors, was still successful.

Heidi suggested that it might be something that needs a large tent. Heidi also believes that we need to look at the HACC mission and look at whether this is even a part of the HACC mission.

Gregg reported that the first week of October is Fire Prevention Week. Last meeting he said a tie-in with their event could really help with attendance. Heidi believes it needs to be decided if we want to have an event and what kind of event it would be. Gregg suggested that if this option is something we want to look into. Heidi said that this is not her decision. Doug stated that he has heard that we need to get off the “heritage” part and get on to the pushing business part. He reports that they want to see less focus on the past.

Jacob reported that Larry Ciofu thought it would be good to see the Chamber’s carnival align with a Heritage Day. Judy Paulsen asked if the businesses had been invited to participate in the planning for Heritage Day. Heidi said that she brought this up at every monthly Chamber directors meeting for a year with no response.

Discussion followed about Winterfest and what made that event have greater attendance than the other. Ceci noted that there are many organizations involved in that effort. Gary noted that there were a lot of sponsorships, plus the Hartland Township resources were applied to this event as well. Gregg really believes that social media is really the route to go. Doug noted that the roadside signs that have been the mainstay get lost in the roadside clutter of signs now.

Ceci noted that if what you offer is not of interest, it will not be shared on social media. Doug asked how it would be if the challenge was issued on social media especially to the Hartland Moms, for example, to provide some feedback. Kim believes that the Township should be brought in, since their survey says that they needed more community wide events. What else is the Township looking for? Ceci noted that it does really help to piggyback events. Mrs Spicer said that they’d be interested in tying their Harvest Festival in with something in the Village. Ceci suggested that if it’s Fire Prevention Week and one day is antique fire-fighting equipment display and history could be the focus involving the Village.

Doug asked if the library has a committee to run the big events. Ceci said, yes, there are a minimum of four and usually eight people all working on the bigger events. But, when Heritage Day had a committee, we were required to rehash everything at the monthly HACC meeting which wore everyone out. If you have a committee, trust them to do their job.

Jim suggested that we have a lot to digest and need to table this. Gayle made a motion to table this to another meeting. Gary seconded. Motion carried.

Web Site feedback and discussion

No feedback on this.

Memorial Day Run

Jacob met with Matt Devitt. We are not communicating with the Athletic Director, because it’s actually run by the Football Coach and the run group. Jacob asked if there were specific concerns. Dick reported that the reason we need this communication is that road closings and more need to be communicated with HACC. If they are profit-making, those profits need to be shared with HACC since the Memorial Day Parade is the focus of the day. Kim said the schools, including the football team, is a non-profit, too. Dwight Sachau reported that inviting all the veterans to a recent football game made it one of the biggest attended ever. Dwight believes that

more involvement in the Next Door Teen Center would go a long way, too, to making connections with the families.

Dick wants to know if Matt Devitt is going to be able to speak with authority on behalf of the run organization. Gary doesn't believe that's in place. Jacob will talk more with Matt about this.

Gayle would like to see at least the T-shirts somehow correlate with Memorial Day—the intent of the day. Doug agreed it should focus on veterans.

New Business/Community Announcements

A neighbor of Dick's asked how a relatively young (ages 9-11) troop of Girl Scouts could be involved in Memorial Day. Is there a job for them? Is it building a float? Doug said that leader should be here at this meeting. They've asked for an assignment and Dick wants not to lead them along. We need to have an answer for their participation by next month. Jim Sparks asked Dick to let them know he could use them to pass our participant ribbons.

Fire Department reports annual charity event with proceeds to local individuals.

Doug thanked everyone who donated to the roofing project at the house in the Village. It is nearly completed, looks a lot better. He said there were four layers of shingles—one layer included a receipt from the 1930s. Overall, though, the roof was in pretty good shape, although some siding needed replacement. Leo Bard reported that the most important outcome is likely the re-energized, new hope for the family since it made no sense to improve the interior while the roof was still leaking.

Kim reported that over 1,400 people attended, which raised just over \$14,000. Big pickleball tournament with possibly \$4-5,000 raised in that event which included a really full parking lot.

Jacob received an email from a former Hartland Township resident who lived near the Hartland Township sign which she thinks was looking shabby. Her son wants to do some good and Jacob is connecting him with the Township.

Jacob suggests that we form a committee to look at the mission statement and the group's by-laws. J. Robert Crouse had a mission way back when. Dick suggested we could also start with the articles of incorporation. Jan suggested that we table to the next meeting.

Dick noted that he will take care of the hanging of the holiday banners.

Jan moved adjournment of the meeting. It was seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Kim moved adjournment at 7:50 pm; Doug Kuhn seconded.