

WHELOCK COMMUNITY INITIATIVE
DRAFT MEETING NOTES
Thursday, March 9, 2023, 2:00 PM
In person, Town Hall

PRESENT: Tanya Brewer, Enid Ellis, Ann Lawless, Hèlène Millas, Carolyn Nolan, Linda Rhodes, Eileen Boland.

AGENDA: No changes. The meeting opened at 3:03 pm.

REVIEW: Hèlène moved to approve the Feb. 9, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Enid, and voted unanimously.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST: Ann's expenses for WCI annual website hosting fee (\$168.00) and domain name fee (\$20.)

Total \$188.00, unanimously approved. Request will be forwarded to Town Clerk/Treasurer, Vanessa Seguin.

CURRENT/FUTURE PROJECTS (new information and/or discussion is highlighted/grey is on hold or not discussed):

Chicken Pie Fundraiser	Tanya reported 45 pies ordered to date. Pick up will be Sheffield TH, 3/20 afternoon. Need volunteers to assist, probably on the weekend.
WCI website upgrade	Work in progress. Ann has done a lot of work, but the software is not easy to use. She and Eileen have been in contact with 2 website designers for help and/or advice.
Business Directory NEEDS VOLUNTEERS	Ann's draft form is what we will use. Eileen checked the Sec. of State website for a list of 44 active businesses based in Wheelock (45 if Andy Buteau has an active business)
Rte 122 Safety: AARP Walkability grant	Ann, Enid, and Eileen drafted a grant proposal for \$2500 to address solutions for excessive vehicle speeds and unsafe walking conditions in Wheelock Village. Grant submitted 3/15/23. (More grants will likely be needed to adequately address the issue)
Little Library MR Students to decorate Second one at fire station	Bradley takes little library to Miller's Run art department. It needs a platform to rest it on outdoors. Tanya's proposed a second one (shaped like fire station, placed at SW station) constructed by Bradley. Approved by the fire chief, Shane Lanpher (Space will be plowed)
Town Meeting Displays: Lesson learned; ID who speaks about WCI	ACCOMPLISHED: Promote Window Dressers (Ann had sample) and HEAT info; WCI display (Ann created) Listing past and future projects and encouraging others to join. Broadband Project display (Eileen created/spoke to). Posters are now in the Town Hall lower level.
Building community; discussion/no decisions	Discussed providing/organizing food @future Town Meetings; noting and responding to life events, such as supporting residents who lose a loved one (Carolyn will track/share local death notices); noting births/weddings. Finding additional items about Wheelock history.
Fun outside event w/ food; Needs more discussion	Could be combined w/ other activities such as the dessert auction. Sept. Movie night discussed Post Meeting Note: Chelsea Hewitt organizer of Danville "Movie Night on the Green" (Sept. 2022), emailed how it worked, advice on running one. Her outline is attached.
Sheffield Food Drives and Clothing Swap	Hèlène and Tanya leads; WCI continues to promote/support food drives and clothing swaps; Linda is a member of the Food Pantry Board, will keep WCI posted on future events
June Yard Sale June 10	Hèlène is willing to continue as organizer for this event; Tanya agreed to contact the "hot dog people" who operate a stand in Lyndonville if they will come and set up shop that day
Window Dressers	Joint effort StJ and Lyndon; Pam Parker, StJ Energy Committee and Nicole Gratton, Lyndon town planner. Building site in gym @Lyndon offices. Lyndon Rotary volunteers. WCI to promote, seek volunteers to measure and build.
Welcome Baskets	Enid continues project, stays in contact with Town Clerk for notices about new residents.
Wheelock News	Eileen writes it/Ann prints & distributes in mailboxes at 3 sites
WCI email program	Eileen has set up/using a Mail Chimp account for newsletter and "push notices"
Garden at Town Hall	TABLED FOR NOW
Possibilities	Hobbies & Collections event, could be combined with other activities
DROPPING	Town Heroes – town meeting; Free Exchange; Spring Seed Swap

4:29 PM Adjourn Respectfully submitted, Eileen Boland

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 13, 3:00 pm, in person, upstairs Town Hall.

MOVIE NIGHT ON THE GREEN OUTLINE FROM CHELSEA HEWITT. 3/9/23

Hi Eileen,

So I use an inflatable screen, I got mine from wayfair at the time but Amazon and Walmart carry them now too for a couple hundred dollars. I had originally bought a cheap fabric screen from Amazon and built a frame from pvc but the inflatable screen is SO much easier and worth the money.

The projector is a huge cost because you want something with a lot of lumens to see the images better and more crisply. Especially if you start before it's pitch black out or have any ambient lighting at your location. I don't know what kind of resources you have in Wheelock but our library and school both have projectors so that may be something you could look into as far as borrowing one. Otherwise the cost for a decent projector will run you around \$500 or so. Mine has 2000 lumens, I don't know the brand off the top of my head but I can grab it out of storage and look later.

I buy and download the movies directly to my computer, trying to stream off wifi is not reliable. I connect to the projector via HDMI cable and I rear project from behind the screen so it's not in the way out front. You can also run off a dvd player via hdmi cable the same way.

For sound I use a dj set I bought on Amazon which has been great, we use it for chamber events and other stuff around town but it's something you could also look into borrowing. Alan Towle here in Danville used to do our sound early on. Some of the local schools and churches have amps or speakers for borrowing as well.

This is mine: PRORECK PARTY 15 Portable https://www.amazon.com/dp/B015GTG454?ref=ppx_pop_mob_ap_share

Now technically you need a license to show these movies, if you are just doing it as a small community event and aren't widely advertising you can probably get away with it but Disney is sue happy so there is always a chance you could get in trouble. You can buy licenses through Swank, this is where I buy most of mine - they have all the major players. The newer the movie the more expensive the license is. I've paid up to \$300.

I serve free popcorn and I put out a donations jar so restock my popcorn fund. I did buy a large movie style popcorn popper but again a lot of places locally have one so you could potentially borrow from someone.

If I can get my act together I will also have baked goods for sale. Brownies and oversized cookies do well. A local group could use it as a bake sale opportunity if they wished. I set up a 10x10 tent with a table or two and offer free water and popcorn and baked goods/lemonade by donation with suggested pricing.

You will need a good source of power. We run off the power at the town gazebo. I run to my tent and another to the movie equipment with a power strip and extensions cords, all outdoor rated.

I provide a trash and recycling bin, we don't generate too much so I throw it out in my own trash.

Since we are using town land I do have to get selectboard approval but that has never been an issue for me.

Attendance can be hit or miss depending on weather and the actual movie itself. Newer kids movies and Hocus Pocus near Halloween are our bigger draws. But parents with older kids love the nostalgic classics, goonies, sandlot, ghost busters, etc.

If you are interested in trying one, let me know and I'd be happy to help you get started and set up.

Let me know if you have any other questions!

Chelsea Hewitt

Movie Night on the Green