

Danby Community Council

Date: 5/7/2015

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting Danby Town Hall, 7:00pm

Board members present: Alison Christie (Pres.), Gould Colman, Julie Clougherty (Tres.), Bill Evans (Secr.), H. Katharine Hunter

Absent: none

Others present: none

Announcements:

Gould brought an unidentified metal item to quiz the group. He said “there is one question one could ask that would lead to its identification”. But he later stated that he would not answer any questions about it today. Katharine then pointed out that Gould had just entered his 9th decade – on April 30th he turned 89! She brought a number of food items to celebrate.

Alison announced we had a quorum and asked whether there were other items that anyone wanted to add to the agenda.

Bill announced that he was recruited to join the Town’s Conservation Advisory Council. He asked whether anyone had any issues with the appointment or foresaw any conflicts. He pointed out some potential benefits -- the CAC and DCC could co-sponsor natural history events, potentially augmenting a Town natural history series offering. The DCC members did not see any conflict with Bill joining the CAC.

Alison noted that we should add an agenda item to finish the contract with the Town.

Privilege of the Floor: None

Approval of Prior Minutes: April 2, 2015 minutes approved as amended

Board Elections: Gould was elected and approved as Vice President to fill the vacancy from DiAnna Snyder’s resignation.

Alison noted we have two open seats. Discussion ensued. Several potential candidates have been discussed but no one has stepping forward yet.

DISCUSSION

Youth Programming

Julie, in looking at the summer schedule, brought up the concern that Karlita (Danby’s youth coordinator) was over hours. Katharine and Julie noted that because we haven’t received a budget from the Town it is difficult to evaluate how the programming reflects the budget.

Alison noted that one of Cornell Cooperative Extension’s primary goals is to foster good relations among kids rather than develop any specific skill. Discussion ensued. Julie noted that making “shinky dinks” is fine on a day with bad weather, but she wanted to see kids being pushed (safely) outside their comfort zones. She also mentioned it would be good to tap into local Danby skills for giving kids unique experiences.

Gould brought up the possibility of having a kids day at Wayne Myers' place.

There was then discussion on Karlita's performance and the programming for the summer. Julie proposed getting rid of the "Natural Health & Stress Release" program and substituting something more outdoorsy and Danby centered. Gould noted that one program indicated kids would be in his yurt. He suggested adding an "exercise in cooperative activity" and having the kids learn about yurt construction. Katharine added an idea about instructive activities (e.g., peanut game) at animal shelters. Julie brought up the idea of having kids or a youth employee help seniors. Katharine pointed out that this would give kids the opportunity to realize that they can help others. Bill suggested kids could visit the "war dog" in Danby that a local Vietnam Vet is rehabbing.

The youth programming discussion ended with talk of involving Danby youth in the decision regarding what text should go on the signs welcoming folks to Danby. The current use of the term "settled" is being re-evaluated.

Event follow-up

The Bald Hill History talk by Wayne Myers was very well received and Julie noted there was \$16 in donations.

Miss Angie's Kid show was amazing but sparsely attended. Alison felt that news of the event did not reach folks in Danby in time. Discussion ensued on the timing of when folks receive the Danby News and the email with the link. The weather was also gorgeous and likely affected people's decision about attending an indoor event.

Event Planning

The possibility of a bird event in June is being pursued by Bill.

Damsel and Dragon Fly talk by Meena Haribal for July 19 – the time was still being determined.

Sherwood Snyder's bat presentation is scheduled for May 21st. Alison noted that we would have refreshments beforehand.

Alison said she heard from Bob Strichartz and an Oboe concert is set for June 14th.

Julie noted that the music budget should be checked because the DCC only received \$700 from CAP instead of \$900 this year.

Alison noted that we should send thank you notes to presenters.

Discussion of Fun Day events. Karlita was planning to do a float. Bill mentioned having a booth displaying Danby moths.

Potential "Tool" social with Wayne Myers. Gould suggested September.

Swimming lessons at Jennings Pond? Problem of goose poop needs to be addressed.

Alison mentioned idea of having staked signs to announce events.

Danby News

Julie brought a copy of the Brooktondale Newsletter as a point of discussion for revisiting the design and cost of the Danby News. Alison suggested that the DCC receive an annual update.

DCC 2015 Contract with Town

Alison discussed the DCC participation in the recent Town Board meeting. Julie noted that the contract with the Town passed for one year. Issues about editing of the Danby News were discussed. A question arose regarding recreation events sponsored by the Town Board – would/should they be DCC events as well?

Treasurer's report

March – \$727.18 (\$400 youth grants; \$77.18 on snacks; \$250 for concert on 15th)
Brought in donations of \$194.26 from Grady Girls concert.

April – No expenses and brought in \$120 from AFCU for West Danby Easter egg hunt and \$16 in donations from the Wayne Meyers talk.

May – Paid \$250 for Miss Angie concert and \$650 for insurance (Directors & Officers). There are still misc. invoices to pay. Brought in \$700 CAP grant.

Taxes aren't done yet but will be soon.

No 3rd quarter scholarships yet (June 15 deadline)

Bank balance = \$21,569.30

Next meeting

Next DCC meeting – Jun 4, 7pm.

Meeting adjourned after 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Evans