

MINUTES

Danby Community Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 4, 2016, 7:07pm

Board Members present: Alison Christie (Pres.), Gould Colman (VP), Ted Crane (ex officio, non-voting), Bill Evans (Secr.), Katharine Hunter, Danny Wheeler

Board Members absent: Susan Franklin, Julie Clougherty (Treas.)

Others present: None

Welcome & Announcements

Bill brings up the possibility of the DCC hosting a presentation on GMO Chestnut Trees. He does not have the details but will send those along to everyone. Gould is supportive of the idea.

Ted wonders whether the DCC would like to help run a coffee shop at Nancy Metsker's new facility.

Ted notes that we are not the only DCC in Town. Danny clarifies that yes we are – the church is now the DC (Danby Church). It is no longer the Danby Federated Church.

Minutes Nov and Dec minutes moved by Gould to be approved. Danny seconded. All approved.

Event Follow-up

No events since last meeting in January.

Alison questions what our reach is with email notices for events. Ted says his list is similar to Bob's, and he has all of Joel's, so he estimates his DCC list is at least 100. There are ~1500 residences in Danby. Discussion on difficulty in letting Town folks know about DCC events – we have no list. Gould mentions, and Ted contributes, that there once was a dog census and it was carried under threat of law by going door to door – but it was expensive. Ted notes the anti-fracking petition effort (~300 people signed it after summer's worth of work). Alison suggests a notice go in the DAN twice a year letting folks know they can get on the email list [Danbynews@tedcrane.com]. She also queries the group again about a DCC Facebook page. Danny brings up the possibility of assessing the number of kids using Danby school bus routes. Bill wonders what good it does to know how many kids there are in Danby. Gould suggests contacting Business Officer at school district (Amanda). Bill suggests targeting parents with kids and augmenting spreading news about programs by word of mouth (slow development). Ted notes that a good place to contact people or make them aware is during tax season when folks stop by the clerk's office to pay. Alison suggests we move conversation to next youth subcommittee meeting.

Upcoming Events

Jazz - Terry Light, Steve Brown, Alejandro Bernard-Papachryssanthou. Julie and Katharine coordinating.

Chihuly Glass & Garden Slide Show by Pat Curran – February 21, 7pm. Refreshments.

Annual Meeting – February 11. Potluck, music, and slideshow. Danny will be on travel. Arrive 6ish for setup. Julie compiling presentation. Alison will give out a handout and review the year. Vote in officers for 2016.

Grady Girls! - March 13

Alternatives Tax Assistance in Town Hall – March 19 (10am-2pm). Susan will be point person. Offer coffee. Appointments only – call 211.

Permaculture Series – discussion over how many events will be in Town Hall.

Event Planning

Civil War Living History Encampment – June 24-26. Alison went to Park meeting and Kenny is fine with everything. Danny notes that Church will host a breakfast open to the public on Sunday morning. He is not sure whether the cannon will be available.

Physics Bus – 4 hour visit suggested donation of \$300. Usually targets 3rd-5th graders. (April? or May?) Ted brings up possibility of dovetailing with Fun Day. 24-40 participants at a time (45 minutes) – kids & adults, a family event. Ted also wonders about the idea of dovetailing the bus with one of the concerts. Allison was thinking about having it on a Saturday to dovetail with the library. Bus could be in Park. Question about whether it would interfere with Town Office operations.

Bluebird Box Building – Family event. ~12 weeks. Inventory existing boxes. Build new ones. Clean them out & monitor annually; send in data. Alison checked with Kenny and okay to use Park. Katharine has done it before – suggests we couch it natural history series. Gould will donate poles. Ted and others suggest we tie it with youth program. Some folks may want to sponsor a box. Alison spearheading; Katharine will help. All agree it is a good program. Alison will write an article about the DAN.

Natural History series -Alison asks Bill for an update on the Natural History Series. Bill wants approval to offer \$150 for three out-of-town presenters for family programs. Bill reiterates the tentative programs planned for the year, noting that no dates are set yet. In addition to the programs mentioned previously, he notes a new idea for a Danby Breeding Bird Count in June. Alison brings up possibility of having Kathy Hodge come to do a mushroom presentation and walk.

Ted is going to revisit the possibility of Grassanova and Phil Shapiro giving performances. Alison will follow-up with Driftwood.

Ted brings up the possibility of the DCC offering transportation to DCC events.

Alison brings up possibility of having seniors come for the March DCC meeting.

School Visit Update

Gould updates on his, Alison & her family, and Katharine's visit. Most of school board turned out to join. Some of school used for family reading partnership, some for BOCES. Lots of space not currently being used, but gym has been totally transformed. Gould said next step is to meeting facilities committee, which is in the process of reviewing structures. Has been talk about a solar farm for the district, and getting rid of big storage boxes. Currently classified as administrative building, but needs likely 4 million plus to upgrade school for student usage. Gould thinks school board feels they need to do more to accommodate Danby, given the taxes we pay. He thinks we need to stay engaged. Alison thinks we need to listen for a while before we propose any ideas, but she thinks there may be a youth service investment that could serve a dual school district & Town of Danby purpose. Alison will attend next meeting.

Still a question on who owns the playground, but Ted thinks we do.

Sign Issue

Some discussion happening, but this may be a slow process.

Website and email addresses

We all have DCC emails now and the plan is for all our contact information to go on the Town website.

United Way Partners Meeting

Alison attended February 11.

Cap Contract

Bob and Alison have completed their parts and everything on track for the year.

Youth Programming

The subcommittee is hoping to do more collaborative planning.

Meeting Adjourned 10:05pm

Quote of the meeting: "if you pick those things, you want to make sure you don't pick 'em all or they'll never come back" – Danny

Respectfully submitted by Bill Evans