

Quality of Life committee, March 31, 2023

PRESENT: Tistrya Houghtling, Danielle Kuffel, Kyle Kuffel, Sharon Powers, Josh Young

Absent: Marianna Anthonisen, Bob Gilson

Meeting called to order: 9:33am

Tistrya Houghtling informed the committee that Marianna Anthonisen will be resigning from the committee and will inform the Town Clerk.

MSC: To approve the minutes from the December 22, January 27 and March 3 meetings. (December 22 had some changes to the dates and text and would be amended by Sharon Powers and sent to Marcie for posting.) Motion made by Josh Young and seconded by Danielle Kuffel. Motion approved.

Discussion:

Health & Wellness update by Danielle Kuffel

The Health and Wellness page is now being updated and will include new information, such as the Health & Wellness consortium now meeting at the library. Sharon Powers will connect the link to the Health & Wellness page on the website.

Wellness RX is now set up to come to New Lebanon. Phoenicia will be their first nonprofit model. The express grocery should be opening soon.

Sharon Powers will work on getting the AA meetings here again or finding out if and where they are taking place.

Mobile van – Tistrya Houghtling is working on this, hopefully arranging something that can go from Hudson to New Lebanon and back. A full-size bus is not appropriate. Hope to work with Bob Gibson, Commissioner of the DSS. He has some money in his budget to assist people to get to their appointments. Several models we may take including a lease payment on a mini-van – problem is getting someone to drive it, possibility of partnering with Canaan for this.

Conceptual Framework for the Committee

We went over the framework and kept it broad enough to include possible future topics. After making changes on proposed edits, Tistrya Houghtling will send out the framework again and we will finalize it at the next month's meeting and then send it to Town Board for their input.

Housing

Chris Brown came to our last meeting and followed up with several documents. Next steps:

1. Zoning – Tistrya Houghtling and Josh Young will work with Chris on trying to come up with changes New Lebanon may need to its Zoning laws to make affordable housing easier here. Will be a checklist for the town.
2. We need to identify property, funding and developer

Josh Young mentioned a person in Austerlitz working on modular homes – might consider inviting him to the next meeting.

Josh young asked if we could get training on the HCR (Home and Community Renewal) – he will explore costs on this.

Jessica Gabriel is a good person to get to a future meeting, she knows the point systems involved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54am – proposed by Tistrya Houghtling and seconded by Danielle Kuffel.

Next meeting: April 28 at 9:30am

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Powers