



TOWN OF NORTHFIELD



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NORTHFIELD BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes of the Meeting of January 16, 2014

Present: George Corliss, Gretchen Wilder, Leif Martinson Keith Murray, Dennis Allen, Peg Shepard.
Also Present: Nancy Court, Scott Hilliard, Dawn Schimberg, Gail, Kevin Waldron, Jenna Moulton, Gail Lyman, Geoffrey Ziminsky, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

Youth Assistance Program Director Dawn Schimberg presented updated financial reports reflecting year end activity. Leif Martinson inquired as to state reimbursements; Dawn replied that these had been phased out. In response to inquiries from Committee members she and Scott Hilliard noted that Northfield pays more than Tilton for this service since payment amounts are based on the school formula, that insurance costs may decrease and that YAP is continuing to try to bring services back to Sanbornton.

Community Action Program Director Gail Lyman reported that the organization's largest program is fuel assistance, followed closely by the electrical assistance program. She also reported that with an aging population home visits are on the increase. An additional growing concern is the rise in large blended families; it is difficult to find apartments for families with many members. Gail also reported that CAP is looking for new offices; Sel. Shepard advised that she consider the Pines Community Center.

Committee member Leif Martinson said that as a Library Trustee he would not participate in consideration of the Hall Memorial Library budget except that he would be happy to answer any questions Committee members may have. Hall Memorial Library Director Jenna Moulton outlined service statistics for the prior year, noting that the library had been fortunate to be able to add 1,000 items to its collection last year through donations. Committee members asked about staffing, hours of operation and use. Leif noted that the Trustees are examining the possibility of switching from oil to natural gas heat and are seeking bids on this work.

Committee member Peg Shepard said that she would not participate in consideration of the Old Home Day budget as she is president of the group, but would answer any questions Committee members may have. She noted that attendance was down last year and believes it was due to the change in dates. People were upset that TNFD had opted not to participate, the OHD committee will look for a replacement vendor and will also work to bring additional vendors back to the event. Keith Murray invited her to the next NEDC meeting as that group is interested in becoming involved with Old Home Day activities. Peg noted that the annual calendar did not occur as planned in 2013 due to lack of coordination, which will be fixed in 2014.

Committee members reviewed the requests from the Hartwell concert series and the American Legion.

Kevin Waldron stated his opinion that the Hall Memorial Library should operate as a subscription service rather than receive taxpayer support.

Wilder/Murray moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2014. Motion passed

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD BUDGET COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 23, 2014