

**Middlesex Town Meeting Solutions Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2009**

Present: Susan Clark, Ron Krauth, Tim Murphy, Chris Reilly, Lauri Scharf, Dave Shepard, Barb Whitchurch, Greg Whitchurch

**1. Minutes of December 9, 2008 Town Meeting Solutions Committee Meeting**  
Minutes of the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Town Meeting Solutions Committee (TMSC) were approved.

**2. Funding Requests from Non-Profits**

A committee to review funding requests for the Town Meeting warning has been set up consisting of Chris Reilly, Sarah Seidmann and Chris Koonz. So far one of the questionnaires sent to organizations requesting funding has been returned. The committee will decide if they should follow-up with organizations that haven't returned the form. Apparently, this year the form will not be sent to groups that submitted a petition to be placed on the warning. Greg suggested in future years Middlesex communicate with neighboring towns about the potential to develop a common form.

**3. Chocolate Making 101**

The TMSC received a crash course in the basics of chocolate making based on Harrison Clark Bushnell's school report on this subject. Information included the differences between milk, dark and white chocolate. The TMSC also sampled various examples of chocolate as presented in cookies provided by Susan Clark. While this session was quite informative it is anticipated that further research will be necessary at future meetings.

**4. Remote Town Meeting Participation**

Greg will follow-up with the Center for Independent Living to help spread the word that remote Town Meeting participation (RTMP) will be provided again this year. He will also find out who it was that helped with sound last year and see if they are interested in doing so again this year. The RTMP group will need to coordinate with June Lakin about microphones.

Lauri or Chris will check on technical details pertinent to providing RTMP at Rumney School this year such as upload speed. Greg will check with last year's participants about whether they wish to participate this year.

**5. Child Care**

Community Connections will help with child care by providing the same service they have done for the past several years. Susan will seek some parents and/or teenagers to help with the child care.

**6. Town Meeting at Rumney School for 2009**

The next TMSC meeting will be held at Rumney School to allow viewing the space where Town Meeting will take place. Rumney art teacher Jen Campbell has been

working with Rumney students to create several murals reflective of Middlesex to decorate the gym for Town Meeting. There will also be additional student art on display.

### **7. Budget Charts for Town Meeting**

Tim reported that this year, given the overall financial situation, will be a difficult year to show comparisons of the town budget with something like the consumer price index. It may be more appropriate to simply show a trend line.

### **8. Town Website**

Notices of town events have been posted on the website. Minutes have been received from the Selectboard, Conservation Commission and TMSC but still need to be posted. Minutes have not been received from the Planning Commission.

### **9. Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**

Ron Krauth reported that the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission will be looking for member towns to indicate where they would like to locate affordable housing in the future.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at Rumney School

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Minutes recorded by Dave Shepard

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