

Boxborough Well-Being Committee
Meeting Minutes: March 26, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 A. M.

Attendees

Rev. Susie Allen, Gail Kessler-Walsh, Liz Markiewicz, Kate Smyers, Channing Wagg, Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry, Pam Follett

Liz suggested that approval of minutes be put off until the next meeting so that people would have a chance to review them.

Liz reported that the BOS had unanimously recommended in favor of the article for the Community Services Coordinator and that Jim Gorman had written the recommendation from the Board.

There was discussion about attending the next FinCom meeting which was scheduled for Saturday. There was a feeling that there was value in listening to the types of questions asked and issues raised. Liz agreed to contact the FinCom chair to see if we could get on the agenda.

There was much discussion of the approach that should be taken for Annual Town Meeting.

- Needs in the community not being met
- Cost savings
- State our goal: It's about who we are as a community and who we want to be.
- Talk about the Boxborough that most of us never see
- Americans are in favor of people pulling themselves up by their bootstraps—We want to be able to help provide the boots

There was also discussion on how to talk about the work the Outreach Coordinator will do—need to make clear it is not a counseling role.

We are paying for someone

- to help residents access state and federal benefits to which they are entitled
- make residents aware of local services available
- provide support to help individuals problem-solve next steps
- provide outreach to individuals and families identified as at-risk

Kate brought up the issue of publicizing the position in advance of town meeting. The Beacon, Blanchard Bits, senior newsletter and Boxborough Cable channel were mentioned.

The committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, April 2, at 9am.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.