

**Hyde Park Community Circle Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2017**

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| Attendees | Present: Judy Clark, John Clark, Everett Dickinson, Teresa Farquharson, Dan Young, Susan Hayes, Marilyn Zophar |
| Revisiting the HPCC Purpose and Mission | <p>What is our purpose and mission? How can we best achieve our purpose and mission? Broad, kick-off questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the HPCC move beyond our four annual events? Or should we cut down to three annual events in order to create more space for other sorts of events or engagement opportunities? • Should the HPCC be involved in fundraising for local community members and needs (e.g., individuals and families in need)? • Should the HPCC be involved in a (potential) Hyde Park community garden? • Is there a role for the HPCC to play in welcoming newcomers to the community? <p>How can we elicit community feedback into the work of the HPCC? What are the community needs? How can we best support those needs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online survey (Survey Monkey) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include survey in hard copy in the electric bill (as well as link to the online survey). People can return completed surveys with their electric bill. - Bring hard copies to the July ice cream social (will depend on timeline?) - Establish subcommittee to draft survey (Susan Hayes will coordinate. Will elicit input from all HPCC members. Judy and Teresa will serve on subcommittee to help finalize survey.) • Community collaborative meeting/in-person dialogue <p>Other interests of HPCC members (all related to tangible community assets the HPCC might be able to support):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community bench...feeling that HPCC should move forward with this. • Interest as well in planting a Christmas tree. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important to be cognizant of religious connections...perhaps seasonal banners hanging from the lampposts, etc. (would not necessarily just have to be around the holidays). Could be a neat project for HPES children. - If we were to donate a Christmas tree, courthouse lawn would be a natural location. We would need to call to request permission. - Could also consider planting it here at the library. • Supporting the Hyde Park Rail Trail trailhead. • Further developing the French House (perhaps community garden, small park, etc.) Sense that those working on the French House would appreciate any small gift from the HPCC (bench, etc.) <p>Next steps with the community bench:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would want bench to have a plaque on the bench noting its donation by the HPCC in honor/celebration of... • Judy would be willing to call and get prices. • Where might the bench live? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could be at the Rail Trail trailhead (but timeline for that development is |

- unclear and it would be “out of sight.”)
- Library?
 - French House?

Discussion of four annual HPCC events:

- Appreciation for the seasonal timing; nicely spaced out over the course of the year. Nice to bring people out and about during all seasons.
- Home Day:
 - Very special event. Very “Vermont-y!” Also helps showcase Hyde Park to the other communities (has an external audience, not just an internal one). Great opportunity to highlight Hyde Park businesses.
 - Observation that Home Day requires a comparatively large amount of work relative to the other events.
 - Committee will spend some time thinking about this and determining next steps. Input from the community can help inform our decision.

There is great value to having an **annual** HPCC “check in” conversation to discuss what is going well and how we might improve. Decision to schedule annual reflection and future planning meeting during the first week of February every year.

Event Co-chairs

Recommendation that event chair/co-chair(s) develop discussion items for their portion of the meeting agenda pertaining to the planning of the event. Chair/co-chair(s) will send Teresa agenda items.

Will be important to schedule HPCC meetings in advance of the events to ensure sufficient planning as well as schedule follow-up meeting to discuss evaluation data.

Marilyn developed helpful template for the lighting ceremony that assisted in planning. She will develop templates for the other annual events.

Here are this year’s events and chairs/co-chair(s):

| Event | Date | Co-chair | Co-chair |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|
| Think Spring | 3/18/17 | Antonia Kontos | |
| Jedidiah Ice Cream Social | 7/17/17 | John Clark | Dan Young |
| Home Day | 9/16/17 | Judy Clark Deb Henderson | Dan Young Marilyn Zophar Susan Hayes: Parade help |
| Lighting Ceremony | 12/1/17 | Teresa Farquharson | Deb Henderson Susan Hayes |

Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 23 @ 5:30 p.m. at the library – Planning event for the Ice Cream Social