



The

Middletown Magnet

"News that sticks in Middletown Springs"



Planning Commission Holds Creative Economy Meeting

On a Sunday afternoon, June 1st, more than a dozen town artisans and business people spent two hours with the Planning Commission, facilitator Kathy Letendre, and Ed Bove from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to brainstorm ideas on how to help Middletown Springs grow and promote the local economy.

The group started by sharing their ideas on four main topics; town assets, needs, challenges and goals. Assets included the town's natural beauty, diversity of talented artists and business people, including artists, musicians, writers, and specialty foods and farms. Needs that were identified included creating a governance for planning, marketing, organization, bringing money in from out of town, and having a clear image and vision. Challenges included location, time, resources, attracting return visitors, effective communication. Goals included creating a supportive infrastructure for economic growth, effectively articulating the Middletown Springs "vibe", creating a positive image and fostering pride and enthusiasm.

The group had a lively discussion about the types of growth they thought appropriate for Middletown Springs and what they've seen or admired in other places. In the end the

group seemed to agree that with some help and guidance and a strong group of interested stakeholders, Middletown Springs has the potential to strengthen the local economy.

The next steps to move forward were established as follows:

1. Form a core group of business owners who want to be involved and who also see themselves as offering some special service and/or product.
2. Share the information more formally with the group present as well as those who were invited but were not able to attend.
3. Inventory current data as well as past data to get a sense of the town's general demographics as well as its business demographics.

Anyone who owns their own business in Middletown Springs and who is interested in growing and promoting the local economy is welcome to join in the discussion. Contact a Planning Commission member for more information on this new community project. Members are;

John Arsenault: 235-9338 or jea@vermontel.net

Tom Hurcomb: 235-9299 or hurcomb@vermontel.net

Maureen McCormack: 235-1245 or moe@vermontel.net

Local Crafts at Strawberry Festival

Local artists, craftsmakers and musicians will join Historical Society volunteers to present the 39th Annual Strawberry Festival.

Strawberry lovers are invited on Sunday, June 15 from 2 to 4 pm to the Historical Society. The festival features delicious strawberry shortcake made with fresh local strawberries, homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream and whipped cream, along with iced tea, lemonade or coffee.

Artist Peter Huntoon will give a watercolor painting demonstration. Nick Seidner of Rising Meadow Pottery will be hand-throwing flower pots. Deb Squires will display her whimsical garden art, and Soulange Martineau will show photo note cards. The Mahar Family will be selling 2014 maple syrup and other maple treats.

Kids' activities led by Rosemary Moser will include the raffle of a doll created by Dietra Davis.

Paul Morgan's band of local acoustic musicians will en-

liven the afternoon.

The Historical Society Museum will be open all afternoon, as well as on Sunday afternoons through October. Admission is free.

On view in the Museum is a series of exhibits, created by Jon Mathewson for Vermont History Expo, focusing on Middletown from 1784 through the 1950s, as well as exhibits on the Montvert Hotel and Mineral Springs.

For more information, contact Pat Hemenway at 235-2421 or David Wright at 235-2376.

Property Tax Notice

4th Quarter Taxes are due on or before
June 16, 2014.

Town Treasurer will be in the town office on
Monday, June 16, from 10 am-4 pm
to receive payments.

Memorial Day Parade Thank You

The Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department wants to thank everyone who came out on a beautiful Sunday afternoon to support our food booth at this year's parade.

As you may have seen in the parade, we had two VIP's on our ladder truck. Joe King, recently retired, long-time Fire Police Lieutenant, was in the passenger seat. Airman First-Class / Lieutenant-firefighter Tyler Manning, just back from basic training in Texas, threw out goodies to the crowd from up on top of the cab. We appreciate your support.

On Saturday, the firefighters were out acting as marshals for the annual 5k race. The number of entries keeps growing, thanks to the efforts of Kristal and Justin Hier, and a host of their helpers. We appreciate their efforts, as all proceeds from the race go to our equipment replacement fund. Great job, everyone.



Fountain of Youth

Chicken & Biscuits, a delicious delight, is on the menu June 25 at the Young At Heart Senior Center in Poultney. Cranberry Sauce, Vegetable of the Day, Soup, Beverage, Bread or Roll and Dessert will round out this meal for only \$3.25.

Doors open at 11 am with dinner served at 12 noon. Make your reservation by calling 287-9200. The next Ira and Middletown dates are July 31 and August 27. Mark your calendars to enjoy good food and fellowship!

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Town Treasurer News

The FINAL installment of Property Taxes, 4th Quarter for Tax Year 2013/2014, are due on June 16th. June 15th is on a Sunday this year, so we have an extra day – Monday, June 16th – to submit taxes.

Your taxes must be submitted on or before Monday, June 16th or mailed with a postmark dated no later than June 16. ANY taxes received after this deadline will be deemed late and will automatically be assessed with an 8% Penalty.

The Treasurer will be available to collect your taxes on Monday, June 16th between 10 am and 4 pm at the Town Office.

Tax checks should be paid to: The Town of Middletown Springs and mailed to PO Box 1022.

Any questions, call Jenny at 235-3256 or e:mail to mt-treasurer@vermontel.net. Thank You!

Classified Ad

If you have batteries or any metal – big or small – to be removed, call me, and I'll come get it for free. Also, firewood and maple syrup for sale. Ron Dufour - 802-235-9276.

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News from the Library



SUMMER @ The LIBRARY

Summer is a busy time at the library. Playing off of the state wide summer reading program theme of science, we will be hosting a number of story hours, movies, and book discussions. Each week we will set out a different Self-Guided Science Explorations for all people of all ages.

Our space might be tight but it should be a whole lot cooler with the addition of a mini-split unit. The Friends of the Library have pursued a number of grants and rebates, as well as coordinated with the town Energy Committee to make this happen. Once it is installed, the Energy Committee plans to showcase it as a demonstration of new efficiency heating & cooling technology. What it means for us is that the Library will be an even “cooler” destination this summer.

Summer Self-Guided Activities: 11 Weeks of Exploration, changing weekly. Stop in the library and experiment. Week of:

- June 15 Water Bottle Xylophone
- June 22 Binary Code Necklace
- June 29 Sink or Float
- July 6 Playdough Electronics
- July 13 Airplanes
- July 20 Marble Run Mania
- July 27 Building Bridges
- August 3 Popsicle Stick Catapults
- August 10 Zombie Disaster Preparedness
- August 17 Fibonacci & Friends
- August 24 Science Fiction Trivia – Let your Inner Geek Shine

Story Hour: Join Martha & Heather Heitkamp for a series of science themed story hours. Four Wednesdays morning at 10am, June 18 – July 9. We will share stories, songs, movement, activities, and a snack. Projects are designed to be open-ended allowing for pre-school thru elementary children to enjoy them. Children under three should bring a responsible friend to participate with them.

Movie Nights: On select Tuesdays at 7pm. Bring your own concessions and join us.

June 24 **Apollo 13*** [1995, PG, 140mins] Three astronauts must devise a strategy to return to Earth safely after their spacecraft undergoes massive internal damage.

July 1 **Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2*** [2013, PG 94mins] Flint Lockwood now works at The Live Corp Company for his idol Chester V. But

Men’s Community Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, June 28, at 8 am
Middletown Springs School

*Come join us if you are able
for this informal monthly event*

he’s forced to leave his post when he learns that his most infamous machine is still operational and is churning out menacing food-animal hybrids **Her*** [2013, R, 126mins] A lonely writer develops an unlikely relationship with his newly purchased operating system that’s designed to meet his every need.

July 22
August 12 **The Lego Movie*** [2014, PG, 104mins] An ordinary Lego construction worker, thought to be the prophesied ‘Special’, is recruited to join a quest to stop an evil tyrant from gluing the Lego universe into eternal stasis.

*More information about the movies including parental advisories can be found at www.imbd.com

Book Clubs: Read the book and then join others in a relaxed discussion, scheduled on Wednesdays, at 7pm. Copies of the titles are available at the library.

For Kids: **Storm Runners** by Roland Smith. Twelve-year-old Chase Masters travels the country with his father, a “storm runner,” but he is tested in ways he never could have imagined when he and a new friend are caught in a hurricane near St. Petersburg. (August 20)

Teens/Adult: **Feed** by M.T. Anderson. Identity crises, consumerism, and star-crossed teenage love in a futuristic society where people connect to the Internet via feeds implanted in their brains. (July 9)

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. The riveting story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery and faith healing; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew. (August 13)

End of Summer Celebration will be scheduled in September. Watch for signs and e-news about it.

Schedule Subject to Change...Please check with the Library if you have any questions – 235-2435

We are open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 2-7pm; Friday 10am-2pm; Saturday 10am-Noon.

See you at the library!

Middletown Springs Building Committee

The regular meeting times for the Building Committee are 7 pm at the Town Office on the **first Wednesday** and the **third Thursday** of each month.

All meetings are open to the public.



Walt & Annie Pepperman
Innkeepers

Twin Mountains Farm, Inc.
549 Coy Hill Road
P.O. Box 1234
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Tel. 802-235-3700
Fax. 802-235-3701
email. tmfbb@vermontel.net
www.twinmountainsfarmbb.com

School Art Winners

Congratulations to TWO MSES STUDENTS!!

Esther Mackenzie won FIRST PLACE and **Oisin Harrington**, HONORABLE MENTION in the Vermont Financial Literacy Poster Competition!!

This year's theme was: "Think Before You Spend!" Our two sixth graders competed with 400 other Middle-Schoolers (6th, 7th, and 8th graders).

We are so proud of them for their artistic talents, presenting the theme and concepts well, *and* for doing this project on their own time!

Esther and Oisin attended a special ceremony in Montpelier on April 10th. Esther and the school was awarded \$100 each!

We have been thinking about how we want to spend the school money! Way to go, Esther and Oisin!!



Farm to School at MSES — July 30th!

Join in the fun and learn how to freeze seasonal vegetables! The Farm To School program at Middletown Elementary School will be processing seasonal vegetables, including tomatoes, beans, and whatever is at the market and in our gardens. Come to the school from 3-6 pm and see what is happening with our food. You are welcome to visit and learn, and/or get involved. Kids are encouraged to show off the garden and help out. Contact Meadow Squier our Farm to School Coordinator at Meadowjoy77@hotmail.com for questions.

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Organized through the Community Church
Any donations go to Church Camp Fund

Community Church News Summer Events



During the warmer months, regular church activities slow down a bit and special ones ramp up. Here are a few things of note taking place in the next two months.

Sunday, July 13: Teen Challenge – On this Sunday, our worship service will be led by a team of men who are residents of the St. Johnsbury center of this very successful nationwide drug and alcohol recovery program. A new group comes each year to tell their stories of struggle and of healing, through hard work and God's grace. We listen and are inspired and humbled. Our church is a financial supporter of Teen Challenge's critically important efforts.

July 12 -20: Honduras Mission Trip – A crew from our church is going south to help a sister church with a building project, and also work with children, women, prisoners and orphans.

Sunday, August 17, 1- 4 pm: Block Party and Free Indeed – An annual event, on the Church Green. Games, fun and food for kids and families. Free 'lawn sale' for everyone! If you are interested in donating items, you can contact Sally Achey at 235-2434 for drop-off times.

August, each Sunday, 10 am: Worship services this month will feature sermons focused on families.

For more information about anything regarding the Middletown Springs Community Church - Pastor Jared Wilson's office: 235-2386; www.middletownchurch.org

Middletown Springs Swim Lessons June 30 - July 4 & July 7 - July 11 Crystal Beach, Castleton Gail McGann, instructor



Schedule & permission slips will be available next week. this program is free to Middletown Springs children. A fee of \$25/child for out of town children.

This program is completely supported by donations NOT tax dollars.

Questions please call, 235 2060 Sue Langdon. Town Coordinator

Agricultural Commercial Residential

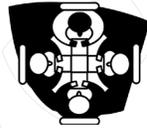
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Planning Commission Approved minutes, May 5, 2014



Members Present: John Arsenault, Tom Hurcomb and Maureen McCormack. Guest: Kathy Letendre
Call to Order: 7:05 PM

Approval of March 31, 2014 minutes: John moved and Tom gave a second to approve as corrected. The motion passed.

June 1st Creative Community Meeting: Kathy Letendre who had agreed to facilitate our creative community meeting was in attendance. The planning members reviewed for her the reasons for holding the meeting. Many towns in Vermont have seen local residents create an organization to support local entrepreneurs, be they farmers, artists or artisans to grow their economic base. The concept comes out of the Vermont Creative Community focus that evolved under the guidance of the VT Council for Rural Development. It is the wish of the Planning Commission to obtain input on adopting this idea from those invited to attend this first meeting. Many at home businesses are found in our town. Further, as the PC would like to comply with the wishes of the residents expressed in our last town report. That report showed that residence wished to have more town services while also retaining our rural character. The Planning Commission cannot form an organization, however, it can support an organization for this purpose, and be a resource to secure guidance and some funding.

Kathy spoke to how she saw the two hours of the June meeting being structured. She felt that in 2 hours it should be possible to get the group to begin to envision what this organization could look like, i.e. to get the ideas flowing and begin to "paint" a picture of what it might look like. At another meeting of the group the details could be worked out. An agenda for the two hours was planned.

Tom said he would research what other towns have been doing to further their economic base along the ideas of the creative community. Tom, also, presented a brochure made by the historical society in the 1970's. It showed that interest existed at that time to put out some publicity on the businesses in the town. While we are looking for placed-based businesses to participate we know that towns with a solid economic base that retain their rural character also generates non-placed base or generic businesses and all further the town's economic base.

It was agreed to mail out the invitations this week and ask for a RSVP by May 23rd. Planning members agree to set up the dining room at 1:30 on June 1st and beverages and food tasks were assigned.

Correspondence: Received from: a) the VT Department of

Environmental Conservation, Drinking Water and Ground Water Protection Division a notification of an application for a relocation of a well and septic on Mountain Road. No action by us is required; b) from Staying Connected, a packet of tools and strategies to help Planning Commissions to avoid forest fragmentation and to further linkages with other towns when completing their town plan.

Old Business:

- Village Center Designation: John presented a cover letter he will be mailing to the Vermont Downtown Program, Division for Community Planning and Revitalization, Department of Housing and Community Development regarding our application for a Village Center designation notifying them or our electronic application. John will mail this out once he receives confirmation on our planning process from the RRPC.
- Economic Development: No report.
- Future Meeting Dates and Times: It was agreed to move the meeting time from the first Monday at 7 PM to the same day but with a meeting time at 3PM. John will post three warrant notices on this change.

Building Committee Report: Not having a quorum the Building Committee has not met this past month. Having a large member committee requires a large quorum to be in attendance.

RRPC Report: Tom presented a publication on amendments to the RRPC plan distributed for public information. Tom also shared an email invitation to an information meeting at the RRPC rooms on June 4 from 1-2:30 on the topic of Downtown/Village Center Designation

New Business: None.

Next Meeting Date: June 2, 2014 at 3:00 pm at the town office.

Adjourn: 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McCormack, Secretary



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NAWCC MEMBER

Select Board Minutes Special Session May 8, 2014 Approved



Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Board Present: H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

Public Present: None

- T. Redfield moves to enter executive session, S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Executive session begins 6:05pm.
- T. Redfield moves to conclude executive session, S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Executive session ends 7:18 pm.
- T. Redfield moves to adjourn special meeting, M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Meeting Adjourned 7:18 pm

Select Board Minutes Regular Meeting May 8, 2014 Approved

Call to Order: 7:20 pm

Board Present: H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

Public Present: Laura Castle, Jim Georg, Tara Kelly, Dan McKeen, Mark McManus, David Munyak, Jenny Munyak, Bill Reed, Hillary Solomon

Approval of Minutes: M. Lamson moves to approve minutes as submitted, S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Public Comment

- Hillary Solomon & Dan McKeen — Poultney Mettawee Natural Resources Conservation District Director Hillary Solomon plans to submit an Ecosystems Restoration Grant that would result in reduced runoff from Town and Church properties into the storm drains. The grant proposal is due to the VT Agency of Natural Resources by June 4, and requires a letter of support from the Town. T. Redfield moves to allow Board Chair to sign such a letter, H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]
- Tara Kelly — Emergency Management Director Tara Kelly presented the Board with two documents, the Town's Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) updated for 2014 and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) guidelines from the US Department of Homeland Security. H. Childress moves to adopt the

NIMS guidelines as the basis for incident management, M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] H. Childress moves to accept 2014 updated LEOP, M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Auditors. The Auditors held warned meeting on May 6th to continue the work of prioritizing policies/procedures/practices for Selectboard adoption. The Auditors recommend that the Board review the road policy and its amendments as a top priority. They also recommended an updated procedure related to transfers between restricted funds and the general fund; the Board and Treasurer agreed on a new procedure of labeling Board Orders with the appropriate fund for expenditures from all restricted funds.

Treasurer. Town Treasurer Jenny Talke Munyak provided a copy of the current financial management questionnaire that she is submitting to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. M. Lamson moves to allow Board Chair to sign Treasurer Munyak's application for a town credit card; T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] H. Childress moves to allow Board Chair to authorize Treasurer Munyak as a signatory to the Town's collateral account; S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

C. Haynes moves to bill Highway employee Steve Geno for his April 2014 contribution to his health insurance, and then to institute a deduction of one-half of his monthly contribution from each subsequent check beginning in May 2014; H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Building Committee Report — David Munyak

- Committee recommends new policy on membership— that any Building Committee member absent from four consecutive meetings will be dismissed from membership. M. Lamson moves to accept Building Committee's recommendation, T. Redfield 2nd. [Aye: H. Childress, M. Lamson, T. Redfield. Nay: C. Haynes, S. Moyer. Motion carried 3-2]
- Committee continues to investigate potential grant and loan opportunities.
- Committee is considering a public information "open house" to be held at the Parker site, so that community members can visualize the location and approximate site layout of the new Town Building.

Town Properties — H. Childress reported on VT procedures for the sale of public property. M. Lamson will communicate with engineer regarding prior findings on flood-zone status of the building at the West Street property.

Road Commissioner Report — Bill Reed

- Bill has received four price quotes for replacement of

continued on page 8...

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continued from page 7...

backhoe, and provided that information to the Board. Approximate cost for new equipment would be between \$78,000 and \$98,000 after trade-in of Town's current backhoe.

- Board has not yet determined mowing schedule for West Street and Buxton Avenue properties; will wait until Bill has pricing on replacement of small groundskeeping equipment (mower, line trimmer, blower).
- C. Haynes moves that the Board review the pay rates and personnel reviews of all Town employees, and that if any raises are decided upon by the Board, they will be implemented at the beginning of the 2014-15 fiscal year; T. Redfield 2nd. [Aye: H. Childress, C. Haynes, S. Moyer, T. Redfield. Nay: M. Lamson. Motion carried 4-1]

Solid Waste

- Mark McManus informs that the fence protecting the Fire Company's leachfield has been damaged by vehicles backing into it from transfer station. H. Childress moves that the Town purchase replacement fence members, and place orange barrels as warning barrier; T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]
- H. Childress and Nora Rubinstein moved electronic waste into compliant storage. M. Lamson will call Casella for electronics pickup.
- VT Greenup provided an insufficient number of marked roadside cleanup bags for 5/3 Greenup Day; H. Childress asked Transfer Station employee Jim Dudley to tally non-marked bags.
- Large Waste day on 5/3 was impacted by torn hydraulic hose on backhoe.

Maintenance of Cemetery — Proposals continue to arrive for re-setting the large stone near the southwest corner of the old cemetery.

Energy Committee — H. Childress informed that Robin Chesnut-Tangerman has the locational inventory of current streetlighting. Childress will receive that inventory, and develop language for community input on possible additions or relocations of street lighting.

Correspondence

- Quote from Brice Orchitt for 2014 roadside mowing: \$2790, work to be completed by July 1. C. Haynes moves to approve bid and hire Orchitt for mowing; H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]
- Postcard from Alderman Toyota
- Letter from VTRANS regarding bike/pedestrian management program
- RRPC notification of June 4 meeting regarding downtown village designations
- Check from Casella Solid Waste for \$10.41 for recycling
- Letter from VTRANS regarding state road commissioner meeting on tree hazards
- Keyser Energy changing fuel cards for refueling stations
- VLCT News
- Overweight Permit request from Steve Newton, accompanied by proof of insurance and \$15 payment. M. Lamson moves to approve overweight permit, T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]
- Service request form from Bill Reed to review his personnel file. No permission needed, since he has the right to access his file.
- Notice of spring planning/zoning forum
- Notice of spring municipal dog control workshop

Financials/Board Orders: H. Childress moves to approve the board orders as presented. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Other Business

- Special meeting of Selectboard set for Thursday 5/15 at 6 pm to begin review of town policies as recommended by Auditors
- Laura Castle asked for permission to have Town Office carpet cleaned. C. Haynes moves to allow Laura to determine carpet cleaning needs and have work done; H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]
- M. Lamson has completed analysis of Road employees' overtime; will send by e-mail to Board members.

Adjourn — T. Redfield moves to adjourn, S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. Meeting adjourned 11:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Clerk



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Joseph P. Donohue, DC
Linda O'Brien, MT
Lisa M. Donohue, MA, LMT
Paul Colletti, MT

Elementary School News

The school was very fortunate to have the support of Middletown Springs Historical Society in learning opportunities for the students. Through MSHS's contribution, the students in the upper grades had experiences to connect with Vermont and US history. The students in 5th and 6th grades visited Gettysburg and Philadelphia where they were able to visually connect with what they had learned about the Civil War and, specifically, the Battle at Gettysburg. The historical society also funded the field trip for the 3rd-6th graders to the Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh. Vermont had an important role in the Underground Railroad during the period of the Civil War. The visit to the Rokeby Museum provided an opportunity for the students to learn about slavery, the role of the Underground Railroad in helping slaves to freedom and how the people in Vermont supported the abolition of slavery. The school would like to thank the Middletown Springs Historical Society for writing the Stewart's grants that helped fund these experiences.



MSES will host Tinmouth Elementary School for Field day on June 11th. The students come together for a picnic lunch and a fun afternoon of games. The culmination of the afternoon is a visit by the fire department with a fire truck with water to spray the students down. This has been a tradition between the two schools for many years and hopefully will continue even with Tinmouth moving to another supervisory union.

The third, fourth and sixth graders completed the Student Interaction Study for new the Smarter Balance Assessments (SBAC) assessments that will be given in the spring of 2015. MSES was the test team's first opportunity to administer the study to students. The study had students respond to text and solve math application problems. After each question, the students were asked for their insight on how the questions were presented and what would make them clearer. The testers were very impressed how conscientious the students were in participating in the study.

The student shared excellent insight to the testers on how the test format could be improved. Having our students participate in the study will help prepare them for next spring and hopefully, make the SBAC assessment less intimidating. I would like to share that Middletown Springs and Wells schools are the only schools in Vermont that volunteered to participate in the study. Our school is proud of how our students represented Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and the State of Vermont.

The students enjoyed the CLiF storytelling presentation by poet Ted Scheu in May. Mr. Scheu is a local poet and former teacher from Middlebury who has published many books on poems that students can connect to. He shared his experiences on how he developed his passion for writing and the inspirations for his poems. Following the presentation, the students were able to select a book to keep. I would like to thank Mrs. Carr and Mrs. Mathewson for their efforts in bringing this program to our school.

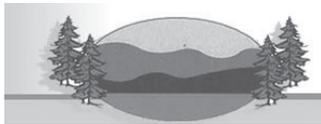
The school would like to thank everyone from the community who volunteered and support our students over the past year. The school has been very fortunate to have people who gave their time, shared their expertise and knowledge with the students, and were willing to help out when needed. The community's commitment to support the students with their time has had a positive impact on the students.

Rick Beal, Principal



Christopher J. Larson, Esq.

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www.yourvtlawyer.com



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Board of School Directors Regular Meeting, May 15, 2014

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Present: Clarence Haynes (Chair), Meredith Morgan (Vice-Chair), Sarah Haley (Clerk), Christopher Smid (Member).

Also Present: Joan Paustian (RSWSU Supt.), Richard Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary).

Public Present: None

Call to Order: Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Approval of Minutes – April 2014: Chris Smid moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 9, 2014, Sarah Haley seconded; motion carried 4-0.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Paustian shared that the SU was planning to move to a Google platform at the end of June. Due to serious technology issues at Central Office, the switchover is happening there now. She shared that Technology Specialist Gary Ackerman will not be returning next year. He has accepted another position. The SU position has been advertised and Gary is willing to help over the summer if we don't have a new hire by July 1. Also leaving at the end of June are Paul Eaton, Student Services Director and Tom Fitzgerald, PHS Principal. A new Student Services Director has been chosen from a highly qualified pool of applicants. Kathi Marcoux has completed the ELA Curriculum. Teachers will be working on that curriculum on their last in-service day and the new curriculum will be taught next school year. The Legislature did not act on the school consolidation bill or the supplemental education bills.

Principal's Report: Principal Beal reports that the Houghton Mifflin "Journeys" reading program materials have arrived. A full day of PD will take place with the company. Teachers will be using the EngageNY Math modules to meet the Common Core standards. The modules are a good starting point and provide a roadmap. They are also very rigorous. This program was recommended by Math Specialist, Jean Ward

along with a fact fluency program for grades 13. The Student Interaction study for the SBAC test was administered with 3rd, 4th and 6th graders by independent testers. The students did a great job; showing tremendous effort. The testers were quite impressed with the students' attention and work ethic. Only MSES and Wells Schools participated in the study which gave the students another opportunity to see and work with the tests before they are administered officially. Four Chromebooks were ordered to make the testing possible. Additional Chromebooks will be ordered next year for testing and for student use by 4th, 5th and 6th graders. The school received one bid for the water system. Hopefully a contract will be here by June so the project can be completed. Current Grade 3/4 teacher Sara Humphreys has accepted another teaching position. Five teacher candidates were interviewed by a committee comprised of teachers, board members, the principal, and a parent. Two candidates will return to teach lessons before a decision is made. VINS was here for a presentation, "Cold Water Creatures." FFE sponsored a wonderful teacher/staff appreciation luncheon on May 9 which was enjoyed and appreciated by all. The MS Historical Society has written a grant for 3rd- 6th graders to visit the Rokeby Museum (Underground Railroad) in Ferrisburgh on June 6. MSES has begun a Mentor/Mentee program for fifth and first graders. Field Day (with Tinmouth) will be on June 11 at MSES. Last school day for students is June 13.

Business Manager's Report: Financial Statements

Mr. Milazzo was not present; he is at the VASBO Conference. His report shows a projected deficit of \$57,874 for the current school year. The final amount won't be known until the audit is completed next fall. All efforts are being made to economize whenever possible. Clarence Haynes moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, Sarah Haley seconded; motion carried 4-0.

Approve Warrants:

- Warrant #183 in the amount of \$208,316.30 dated 4/9/14
- Warrant #184 in the amount of \$20,741.27 dated 4/23/14

Clarence Haynes moved to approve Warrant #183 in the amount of \$208,316.30 dated 4/9/14 and Warrant #184 in the amount of \$20,741.27 dated 4/23/14, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried. 4-0

General Public Comments: None

Old Business: Motion made by Sarah Haley to authorize the Board Chair to approve the water project expenses within the financial range discussed, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0. Clarence Haynes (Chair) abstained.

New Business:

1. There is a slate missing on the roof. Mr. Beal will contact TKO to take care of this promptly.
2. Lawn Care services will stay the same if the vendor is in agreement and cost remains reasonable.
 - Policies (for input or approval): None

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- Action on Personnel Contract
3. Farm to School Coordinator – Meadow Squier
 4. Clarence Haynes moved to approve the stipend contract of Meadow Squier, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0. Stipend will be paid from Farm to School Grant funds.
 5. Elementary Level Teacher Vacancy
 6. Letter received from Sara Humphreys that she will not be signing/returning her contract. She has taken another teaching position. Resignation accepted with regret, by consensus.
 7. FY15 Support Staff Contracts
 8. Support staff contracts were distributed on May 15, with negotiated increases reflected; contracts need to be returned by June 1 or positions are considered vacant.
 9. Food Service Program
 10. Mr. Beal would like to add two days to the food service employee's contract to attend the VT Summer Nutrition Institute.
 11. Clarence Haynes moved to add two days to the Food Service Director's contract for training, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.
 12. Administrative Asst. Work Hours: Dr. Paustian noted that the Admin. Asst. has been working 7.75 hours per day on school days, although the negotiated agreement is for 7.5 hours. Mr. Beal stated that it is necessary for the school office to be covered from 7:30AM to 3:15PM on school days. Clarence Haynes moved to amend the CBA to accommodate the extended day by having the Admin. Asst. work 7.75 hours on school days, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.
- School District Clerk:** Clarence Haynes inquired as to whether the district has been paying the school district clerk. This was the practice a number of years ago and will need to be looked into.
- Set Next Board Meeting & Agenda Building:** By consensus, the next board meeting is set for Tuesday, June 24 at 6:00PM at MSES.
- Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted** Sarah Haley moved to have the Board enter Executive Session at 7:20PM for personnel and negotiations issues, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.

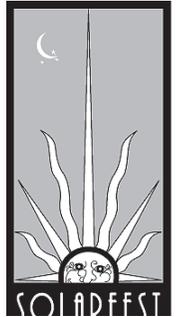
Clarence Haynes moved to have the Board exit Executive Session at 8:35PM, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0. No Action Taken.

Other Lawful Business: None

Adjournment: Meredith Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:39PM, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso, Recording Secretary

SolarFest Celebrates 20 Years!



SolarFest will celebrate its twentieth year on July 18, 19 and 20 with three days of inspirational workshops on a variety of sustainability focused topics, creative performances, and music across two stages powered entirely with renewable energy, and more than 60 exhibitors, craft and fantastic food vendors.

SolarFest is an ideal event for anyone interested in sustainability, or looking to attend a family-friendly festival. Over its 20 years, it has several times been voted as a Vermont Chamber of Commerce Top Ten Event, and this year it garnered the Editors' Choice from *Yankee Magazine* as one of New England's top events.

SolarFest will host over eighty workshops on renewable energy, green building, sustainable living, and agricultural topics, and for the second year it will also be holding a Mini Maker Faire® as part of the festival. SolarFest is also inviting professional installers and homeowners to compete in its racking challenge, for the seriously solar.

SolarFest is hosted by Forget-Me-Not Farm, which is itself powered by a grid-intertied solar system and GMP's Cowpower. Ticket information and many other details can be found at the festival's website: www.solarfest.org.

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Calendar

June

Father's Day	Sun. 15	All Day	
Strawberry Festival	Sun. 15	2-4 pm	Historical Society
4th Quarter Property Tax	Mon. 16	10-4	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues. 17	6:30 pm	Fire House
Friends of the Library	Tues. 17	7 pm	Library
Story Hour	Wed. 18	10 am	Library
Building Committee	Thurs. 19	7 pm	Historical Society
Summer Solstice	Sat. 21	6:51 am	
Movie Night	Tues. 24	7 pm	Library
Fountain of Youth	Wed. 25	11 am	Young at Heart
Story Hour	Wed. 25	10 am	Library
Library Trustees	Wed. 25	7 pm	Library
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Sat. 28	8 am	School

July

Movie Night	Tues. 1	7 pm	Library
Story Hour	Wed. 2	10 am	Library
Building Committee	Wed. 2	7 pm	Library
First Response	Thurs. 3	6:30 pm	Fire House
MSSH Trustees	Thurs. 3	7:30 pm	Historical Society
4th of July	Fri. 4	All Day	
Planning Commission	Mon. 7	7 pm	Town Office
Conservation Comm.	Tues. 8	7 pm	Library
Story Hour	Wed. 9	10 am	Library
Book Club - Feed	Wed. 9	7 pm	Library
School Board	Thurs. 10	6 pm	School
Select Board	Thurs. 10	7 pm	Town Office
Energy Commission	Mon. 14	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues. 15	6:30 pm	Fire House
SolarFest	Fri.-Sun.	July 18-20	Forget-Me-Not Farm

Calendar Events - subject to change.

When in doubt, please check with the organization for details.

REMINDER: There is no July Magnet. Next issue is August.



HAPPY SUMMER!



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