

Madison Library
Strategic Planning Committee
July 29, 2014, 6:00 PM
John F. Chick Room, Madison Library
Minutes

Attendance: John Filson, Linda Drew Smith, Fay Melendy, Braxton Hinchey, Nancy Devine, Sloane Jarrell, Sue Stacy, Mary Cronin.

Absent: Noreen Downs, Mark Lucy, Tammy Flanigan

Call to order: John Filson, Chair, called the meeting to order at about 6:00 PM.

Agenda: Draft agenda was adopted as presented.

Minutes: Minutes from the July 1, 2014 meeting were accepted as written.

Comments: There were no comments.

Report of conversations: John Filson provided a written report of conversations he had with Bruce Mallory, Director of NH Listens, and with David Smolen, Director of the Conway Public Library. In summary, Bruce and a colleague or two will assist this committee by facilitating the Community Conversation event on August 19. (The change in event name from "Listening Session" was suggested by Bruce.) Start time of event was shifted to 5:30 pm, earlier than discussed at the last meeting. Bruce will use breakout groups to promote dialog. David Smolen told John that Conway Public Library has no strategic plan, that he is focused on kids, getting them signed up for library cards and promoting reading to encourage future library users. John is planning to have similar conversations with other area library directors.

Promoting Community Conversation event: Nancy suggested that committee members each contact 10 people and invite them to come. Mary will provide text of invite flyer that will be passed out at Old Home Week events. John will follow up with committee members in a week or so to see how their efforts at promoting the event are going.

Framing questions: All agreed Bruce Mallory's list of questions for the Community Conversation is very good. Nancy noted technology and fundraising aren't mentioned specifically in the questions, but they should come up in the community dialog in some way. John asked committee members to let him know by Friday, August 1 if they have any suggested changes to the list of questions. There will be at least one committee member in each breakout group at the event, to take notes, listen, and report back to the committee.

Survey: Mary provided graphical analysis of the survey results to-date. So far, 85 surveys have been filled out. No surveys have been returned from 13-17 year olds or 18-30 year olds.

Old Home Week survey push: Friends of Madison Library have agreed to offer one free book at an upcoming book sale to each person who takes a survey during Old Home Week. Mary made a coupon that can be handed out. A discussion of the various Old Home Week events and who could attend which one resulted in the following assignments:

Community Fair (8/2): Mary and John
Library's Old Home Week events: Mary
Blueberry Festival/Conservation Commission lecture (8/3): Nancy Devine
Ice Cream Social (8/4): Linda Drew Smith
Fireworks (8/8): Mary
Bean Hole Supper (8/9): John and Fay
Sue Stacy will help out as she can.

Draft report: John provided a draft of the report. Fay Melendy will write the Friends of Madison Library section. The goals section will be limited to 3 or 4, with each goal described with a strong action verb. A note about what was used to identify the priorities (survey, Community Conversation) will be included in the report. Committee members were asked to begin to circulate draft sections of the report between the time of the Community Conversation and the next committee meeting on September 10.

Next meetings: August 19, 2014 at 5:30 PM for Community Conversation. Next committee meeting will be Wednesday, September 10 at 5:30 pm. The agenda will include crystalizing the results of the survey and Community Conversation into 3 goals, with 3 priorities assigned to each goal.

Adjourn: John Filson adjourned the meeting a little after 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cronin