

May 3, 2006 Minutes **Town Village Merger Task Force**

Present: Nick Heyniger, Wittie Lynn, Paul Highberg, Mark Curran, Steve Carter, Susan Inui-Kelly, Tom Rutkowski, Byron Kelly, Candace Coburn

1. Nick will send the pamphlet update to all in preparation for the next review on the 17th.
2. Reviewed item #4 in last week's minutes – Sally (after the meeting had adjourned) mentioned that Stowe formed a Village committee that met for one year after the merger to ensure a smooth transition. Also a community ceremony – both great ideas that we will keep in mind.
3. Paul reviewed the work on the Web Site.
 - a. Candace to write a welcome page and the start of the history and background page.
 - b. Mark will pull together the FAQ's page from the pamphlet and Wittie's report.
 - c. Candace to send all minutes to Paul so he may post on the site.
 - d. Each committee member to send Paul any links they feel is pertinent.
 - e. Paul will "sprinkle" the site with pictures – send him digital photos if you have any you feel are appropriate. Paul will also take some of Taftsville, the Prosper Community House and the South Woodstock Fire Department. Any pictures of local covered bridges are wanted, as well as the photos taken of Celebrate Our Community and any shots with members of our community.
1. We will have a group picture taken at 5:00 on Wednesday, June 7th, to be posted on the site. Please make every effort to attend the meeting.

Upcoming Agendas:

Merger Plan – draft #2 May 10th.

Pamphlet – 3rd draft review May 17th

NO MEETING MAY 24TH

May 31 – Finalize Web Site

June 7 – Group Picture

May 10th, 2006 Minutes **Town Village Merger Task Force**

Present: Nick Heyniger, Paul Highberg, Mark Curran, Steve Carter, Sally Shane, Grettie Howe, Jan Noskey, Bruce Gould, Candace Coburn

1. Candace to send Paul any reports for the Web page. –all set.
2. Paul will work to make the web site less technical looking and more inviting.
3. Paul needs pictures in a jpeg format – please send along if you have any.
4. Nick to email the latest pamphlet draft to Wittie and Paul on the 12th and to all on the 15th.
5. Discussion on possibilities of how to set up the merged board.
6. Steve led review of the plan – draft #3 – overall it is looking very good and almost to the point where we can send it to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns for lawyers to review and ensure all is correct. Steve would like to “flesh out” the special district paragraph – needs to a little more defined so that it is as clear as possible. We reviewed how the Village has a charter but the Town of Woodstock does not– it was incorporated during a time when some land holdings were chartered but that was it. This plan would become the charter and the Village charter would be dissolved.
7. Reviewed possible Police Commission that could be set up.
8. Mark pulled another list of FAQ’s together for the Web site – this will be combined with the pamphlet FAQ’s and then posted.
9. Nick requests that as many members as possible attend the next meeting so we may finalize the pamphlet.

Next meeting – May 17th at the Town Hall, 5:00 pm

Pamphlet – 3rd draft review May 17th

NO MEETING MAY 24TH

May 31 – Finalize Web Site

June 7 – Group Picture

Minutes also attached in a word doc format

May 17th, 2006 Minutes Town Village Merger Task Force

Present: Nick Heyniger, Paul Highberg, Steve Carter, Sally Shane, Grettie Howe, Jan Noskey, Byron Kelly, Wittie Lynn, Candace Coburn

1. Nick presented an almost final draft. Thank you, Nick, for all your hard work on the pamphlet. You have provided to the committee (and ultimately the community) a wonderful information tool.
2. Wittie will take the changes and place all into a brochure format for the June 7th meeting.
3. Proposed FAQ:
How do I know the Town will care about the Village as much as I do?
The Town has proven repeatedly their care and concern – just a few Town initiatives include the Elementary School Parking area and the Public Bathrooms (what was the third????).
4. Police Coverage: Byron and Grettie suggested holding off on this paragraph for two weeks to see how the Town is proceeding with Police Coverage. We will review again on June 7th.

Thanks, everyone – these meetings are often a touch on the grueling side

NO MEETING MAY 24TH

Next meeting – May 31st at the Town Hall, 5:00 pm

May 31 – Finalize Web Site

June 7 – Group Picture and pamphlet

These minutes are also attached in a Word document format

May 31st , 2006 Minutes Town Village Merger Task Force

Present: Nick Heyniger, Paul Highberg, Tom Rutkowski, Steve Carter, Sally Shane, Marilyn Spaulding, Jan Noskey, Susan Inui-Kelly, Wittie Lynn, Candace Coburn

1. July 12th is set for a presentation to Rotary - noon at the Woodstock Country Club (\$14 includes lunch, beverage, dessert, tax and grat). All members are encouraged to attend.
2. I called Bruce Gould, chair of the Selectboard, and we had a very positive conversation. He suggested we add that the police issue is being addressed with the Trustees. He agreed that it is prudent to add the sentence on the Village District as that is the way their proposal will be headed.

Suggested for the pamphlet:

Police Coverage

This is a separate issue which is currently being addressed by the Town Select Board and the Village Trustees, and we are following their progress closely. We have, however, taken steps to address this issue in the plan by creating a "Village District", a concept recommended by the Vermont Council on Rural Development. The creation of a Village District allows a community to offer different levels of service while still operating with one government. We encourage you to contact any committee member should you have questions.

Please email me with any edits/comments you might have on this proposed change.

3. Reminder – if you have any suggestions for links, email them to Paul Highberg at paulhberg@aol.com

4. It was decided that the Web Site is set to go, once the small changes from this afternoon are in. Yahoo!

We should feel a great sense of pride with what has been produced – the pamphlet, the plan and the web site are all looking fantastic.

Next meeting June 7th at the Town Hall, 5:00 pm

Upcoming Agendas:

June 7 – Group Picture and pamphlet -discussion on how to cover costs of printing

June 14 – Final Plan Review

June 21 – No meeting (sorry I'm already booked that evening)

June 29 - Pot Luck dinner at my house – 6:00 – All are invited (partners, too)

You can get my address off the web site! I will provide the entrée – please RSVP by June 27th.

July 5th – Set plan for getting the info out over the summer

July 12th – Rotary luncheon – 12:00 noon Merger Presentation. No evening meeting.