

## **Community Group Meeting**

**Monday, May 21, 2018**

**5:30**

**Jewett School**

**Facilitator/Scribe: Rob Carmichael**

### **Minutes**

Attendees: Rob Carmichael, Hans Krichels, Jef Fitzgerald, Ron Russell, Melissa Lalonde, David Keene, Chris Johnson, Dawn Elaine Danforth

Attendees who desired to give an update on their groups were able to do so.

Dawn shared that the BBHCC is meeting with a consultant to work on their strategy going forward. They have identified a grant writer to pursue grants which may be available. They are willing to share resources with other groups when it is feasible and helpful.

Melissa said that the H&S philosophy continues. They are in the midst of creating a "Stewardship Committee" to help usher ideas to actions. This group might meet up to four times per year with the intent to facilitate recourses and support to those leading the action items. There are 82 specific ideas some of which have already been planted with other groups within the community. The actions will fall within the list of 9 value statements.

Ron Russell, representing Main Street Bucksport, discuss and event this summer call Kids on Main. The concept is for this to take place at the Dairy Port and used as a way to stimulate reading. Kid who participate will get a free book and coupon for an ice cream cone. This is still developing with more to come. Ron mentioned that Sue Lessard is trying to get help to assist with coordinating transportation options throughout town. There may be up to 20 groups represented that provide some amount of transportation for the public.

There was a great turnout for the cleanup day.

Jef Fitzgerald and Hans Krichels reminded us that Bucksport Next still has their facebook page. One of their original ideas (George Macleod) was to use the Bucksport Next website to coordinate groups and activities. This could still be a possibility. Hans suggested we have a "Spirit of Bucksport" photo contest. They would like to keep the photo gallery going and encourage people to submit photos of all things Bucksport. Another suggestion was to tie the Bucksport Historical Society house tour into the art festival. Our town manager, Sue Lessard agreed to have [www.bucksportmaine.gov](http://www.bucksportmaine.gov) host a basic web-page for Bucksport NEXT that Jef will administer.

**Discussion on the purpose or direction for this group of groups.**

- We agreed there is a role for this group. As originally conceived, it would be a forum where group representatives could share their plans, successes and challenges for the benefit of all and voluntarily enhance coordination, avoid duplication, share resources with the ultimate goal of building enthusiasm and activity throughout the town.

**Frequency: Quarterly to start from 5:30-7:00**

**Organization: Rotate facilitators, scribe, etc.**

**Location: Jewett School (primary)**

**Participants: Representatives from all organized town groups**

**Purpose:** The original intent was for a forum where group representatives could share their plans, successes and challenges for the benefit of all, voluntarily:

- Enhancing coordination
- Avoiding duplication
- Sharing resources
- Building enthusiasm, etc..

**Focus:** With the town's vision always in the forefront, unify and help facilitate the goals and objectives of each entity.

**Name:** We discussed having a name for the group and "Bucksport NEXT" was chosen by consensus of those present.

**Initial groups:** This is a 5-6 minute chance to update others on recent accomplishments, goals, and any upcoming events which may need some help from other groups. The list below includes those who have been involved with this in past meetings.

- Bucksport Next
- Heart and Soul
- Main Street Bucksport
- Wednesdays on Main
- Bucksport Chamber of Commerce
- Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition
- BACAS
- Bucksport Historical Society
- Bucksport YMCA

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**Name:** Bucksport Next

The next meeting will be scheduled soon, most likely September.