

Glastonbury Landowners for Positive Change

As a volunteer service by GLFPC, this meeting summary/interpretation is being distributed to the GLA Board and our Association. Your suggestions are welcome should there be oversights or errors.

GLA Communications Committee Meeting on March 2, 2016.

How to plan and organize the upcoming community meeting on April 2, 2016, at Emigrant Hall, “The Board Listens” is perhaps, the first of its kind. This idea actually originated from a North Glastonbury landowner, and was the focus of the GLA Communications/Technology Committee on Wednesday evening, March 2, 2016. Committee Chair Dennis Riley hosted the one-agenda item meeting at his home with committee member, Mark Seaver attending by phone. Committee member Charlotte Mizzi was also present, along with four landowners.

One focus of the discussion was how to make the “listening” meeting productive and not just a venting opportunity. Initially it was thought that landowners could be organized according to their interests, such as a road group or one for governing document changes. However, that idea was dropped when others said they wanted to hear what all landowners had to say. Ongoing brainstorming led to a consensus that there would be two facilitators, one being a board member and one being a landowner. Also a scribe would record all questions and concerns on the pages of a flip pad.

To make certain that everyone will have a chance to speak, it was decided that every attendee would be given an initial turn to speak. Once all have done so, a second opportunity will then be offered. And for those who might not want to speak publicly, it was decided that a box for written input would be provided.

After all issues are heard and recorded on the flip pad, the plan is to attach those pages to a designated wall space. Attendees will then affix their allotment of five sticky circles ranking the issues in order of importance. Depending on time, the closing step will be to assemble teams to focus on studying and creating action plans for specific community topics.

The idea that the board would sit in a row facing and listening to the landowners, gave way to an agreement that chairs would be arranged in a circle to allow board members and landowners to sit together and to have ease of communication. The meeting attendees reasoned that board members are landowners, too, and thus a more inclusive seating arrangement is preferred.

The one and one half hour meeting ended with committee Chair, Dennis Riley, and South Glastonbury landowner Leo Keeler, agreeing to serve as co-facilitators. Wendy Riley volunteered to be the scribe.

Postcard notice for the April 2, 2016 meeting has been sent. The Saturday morning meeting at Emigrant Hall will begin with a social time for tea and coffee at 9:30. The actual meeting will

convene at 10:00 am and end at 1:00 pm.

GLFPC Note: *The GLFPC encourages all Glastonbury landowners to attend the April 2nd meeting, “The Board Listens,” at Emigrant Hall. Numerous and widespread changes are about to happen in our Association. This first-time event is a must for all landowners to understand these profound changes and how they impact each one of us.*

Hope to see you there!

Thank you.

Glastonbury Landowners for Positive Change