

ADOPTED

City of Keene
New Hampshire

COLLEGE CITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 28, 2017

4:00 PM

Madison Lounge, KSC

Members Present:

Darryl Masterson, Co-Chair
Bart Sapeta, Co-Chair, City Councilor
Bettina Chadbourne, Councilor
Chris Cusack
Dottie Morris
Joshua Jarvis, Alternate
Robin Picard
Marcia Keyser

Staff Present:

Tara Kessler, Planner
Kim Schmidl-Gage

Members Not Present:

Paula Jessup
Phil Jones, Councilor
Dick Berry
Kelly Ricaurte
Dean Eaton
Chris Hrynowski

1) **Call to Order**

Co-Chair Sapeta called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM. Roll call was conducted with introductions. Guests at the meeting included Meg McIntyre, a reporter with The Keene Sentinel, Brianna Neely, student at KSC and Steve Fortier, the Director of External Relations at KSC.

2) **Approval of Minutes – June 26, 2017 and August 22, 2017**

Ms. Kayser noted a correction to the minutes of the June 26, 2017 meeting, on page 3, second paragraph, “Ms. Kayser reported that Ms. Burchsted declared a proclamation...” should be changed to, “Ms. Kayser reported that Ms. Burchsted reported a proclamation...”

Ms. Picard noted a correction to the minutes of the June 26, 2017 meeting, on page 2, fifth paragraph, “Ms. Picard said that when there are issues, she will work with the landlords and the tenants to resolve them and decide if disciplinary action is necessary”. She explained that her role does not involve determining disciplinary action for the students. Ms. Picard requested to remove “and decide if disciplinary action is necessary”.

In addition, Ms. Picard noted a correction to the June 26, 2017 minutes, on page three, first

paragraph, “He reported that Ms. Picard would create a draft that contained all of this information for the next CCC meeting” should be changed to “He reported that Ms. Picard would create a draft report for the Neighborhood Revitalization Subcommittee”.

Ms. Kayser noted a correction to the minutes of August 22, 2017 on page 1, last paragraph, “Ms. Pitman explained that the Beloved Community Event was held last year at the Fall Festival” should be changed to, “Ms. Pitman explained that the Beloved Community Event was held last year at the Fall Festival. However, this year the event will not be held the same time as the Fall Festival”.

Ms. Chadbourne made a motion to adopt the minutes of June 26, 2017 and August 22, 2017 as amended. The motion was seconded by Co-Chair Masterson, which carried unanimously.

3) **Subcommittee Updates**

a.) Neighborhood Revitalization

Ms. Picard reported that the subcommittee was moving along strongly and would regroup in the next few weeks. She stated that the Southeast Keene Neighborhood group met earlier in August and reported that the group received positive feedback from community members in regards to student neighbors. Ms. Picard said that she and Co-Chair Sapeta would continue to direct the subcommittee so they are able to formalize the subcommittee’s report. Ms. Picard discussed a grant called RSA 79E that the subcommittee was looking into for neighborhood revitalization.

Ms. Kessler clarified that RSA 79E was not a grant program but was a tax relief program. She explained RSA 79E was a property tax relief program that seeks to encourage investment in town centers and to rehabilitate under-utilized buildings. She noted that the City of Keene would need to designate the areas that RSA 79E would apply to. Ms. Kessler explained that the community would determine the qualifying structures and areas within the purview of state law. She stated that the community would also determine how long an eligible property owner could receive a relief period. Ms. Kessler explained that the goal of RSA 79E was to give property owners a period of time where they would not be taxed on the value being added to the property. She said this was an incentive to rehabilitate older homes or underutilized properties such as the Kingsbury property located in Keene.

Ms. Kessler stated that the City Council has started discussing RSA 79E and is beginning to learn more about the program. She said that the topic was on more time with the PLD to further explore where in the City the program should apply.

Ms. Kessler noted that RSA 79E would need to be formally adopted by the City Council.

Ms. Picard reported that her office along with Code Enforcement, neighbors, the KFD and the KPD were distributing move-in kits to the students living in the nearby neighborhoods. She said they were also trying to determine which apartments are occupied by students and where the vacancies are located. Ms. Picard said that they were asking landlords to help KSC with this information, to help determine the location of the vacancies in order to help with neighborhood revitalization.

Mr. Cusack requested to join the Neighborhood Revitalization Subcommittee. Ms. Picard stated that she would email Mr. Cusack the date and time of their next meeting.

b.) Inclusiveness

The Commission took a few minutes to review the latest draft of “Building an Inclusive Community”.

Co-Chair Sapeta made the following recommendations:

- Creating a formatted table for resources and supports that lists the contact and website for each office.
- Removing the list from the body of the report and mention there is an appendix that lists all of the information. Mr. Jarvis informed the Commission that he was working on a list of resources and supports and would have the list completed for the next CCC meeting.

The CCC recommended adding the following trainings/seminars:

- Green Dot Bystander Training
- Ask a Muslim
- All Are Welcome
- Safer Scenes Bystander Training
- Step Up Training
- A series of workshops directed toward the history of the indigenous people in the Monadnock Region.

Ms. Kayser made the following recommendations:

- The Short Term Recommendations section where it states Coordination with Educational director, the date of the screening should be changed to September 17, 2017.
- Reference to the Monadnock Fall Festival should be removed from the paragraph.

Mr. Masterson noted that on top of page 3 the word “residents” was duplicated in the same sentence.

Ms. Morris said that she would get the contact information for All Are Welcome group to Mr. Jarvis. In addition, Ms. Kayser will provide Mr. Jarvis the contact information for the Monadnock Progressive Alliance. Mr. Jarvis will provide a brief summary of the Step Up Training to be included in the draft.

Ms. Picard recommended contacting Cindy Cheshire, Director and Campus Minister at KSC about a seminar/training opportunity.

Ms. Schmidl-Gagne reported the KSC Senate was working on a day to select as Indigenous People Day on campus and the date would be listed on Ms. Morris’s calendar at KSC.

Ms. Schmidl-Gagne reported KSC President Melinda Treadwell was currently working on the Keene Climate Survey. Ms. Morris noted that the KSC Climate Survey would be administered in October of 2017. The Commission recommended a long term goal would be to develop a plan of action based on the results of the Keene Climate Survey. In addition, the Commission recommended that the results from the KSC Climate Survey be used to reconcile the Keene Climate Survey.

Ms. Morris discussed a meeting that was held with the Mayor Lane and Police Chief Russo

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that pertained to reporting incidents that occur in the City and how to have a better reporting mechanism in place. The Commission agreed to a draft recommendation for reporting identity related bias. Ms. Morris said that KSC has a “Silent Witness” option to report a crime. The “Silent Witness” is a form where someone could report something that they saw in an anonymous way. The KSC Campus Safety would then be notified and action would then be determined.

The Commission discussed threats within the community that have occurred. As a result, they requested that Ms. Kessler invite Police Chief Russo to a future Commission meeting as well as the KSC Campus Liaison Officer.

Ms. Kessler reported that Mr. Eaton had submitted his resignation and that there would be a vacancy available on the City side of the Commission. Co-Chair Sapeta reported that Ms. Hrynowski had also submitted her resignation to the CCC and that there would be a vacancy on the KSC side.

Ms. Schmidl-Gagne said that she would confirm Ms. Neely as a student member of the Commission with KSC President Treadwell.

7.) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September, 24 2017 at 4:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the City Hall.

9.) Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Co-Chair Sapeta adjourned the meeting at 5:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jennifer Clark, Minute Taker

Reviewed and edited by,
Tara Kessler, Planner