



EAST VALLEY COMMUNITY GROUP  
(EVCG)  
Monthly Meeting Minutes, December 7, 2021  
Meeting held via Zoom

Present: Betsy Race, Josie Carothers, Allison Belisle, Elizabeth Lord, Joan Feierabend, Mark Kelley, Jane Terry, Christine Settles, Sarah Jolivette

1. Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Betsy Race at 5:44 PM.
2. Introductions
3. Changes to the Agenda: Move Item 4b “Update on bank CD question” to be discussed under Item 8 “New Business”
4. Secretary's Report:

Correction to the draft minutes – Item 6b Public Relations Report: Allison explained that Marcia is the one who maintains Mailchimp. Allison offered to download the distribution list so that it could be reviewed. The minutes will be revised to correct this.

A motion to approve the November 2 minutes with the correction was made by Joan Feierabend and seconded by Mark Kelley. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Treasurer’s Report

A motion to approve the November 2 Treasurer’s report was made by Josie Carothers, and seconded by Joan Feierabend. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Committee Updates

a. Events Committee: Updates were provided by Betsy and Joan (since Marcia wasn’t able to attend the meeting tonight). They reported that seasonal winter decorations have been put up in front of the East Valley Community Hall. This year the Events Committee has created a new project to make “snowmen” figures made out of old bicycle rims decorated with hats and scarves. Three of the Bicycle Snowmen have been installed outside the hall, and other snowmen have been placed outside the Middle Branch Market, the Post Office and locations up and down the valley.

A motion was made by Josie Carothers to reimburse Betsy \$47.91 for the decorations purchased. The motion was seconded by Joan Feierabend. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Insurance for a sledding party: Christine spoke with her agent who said she has the option to obtain additional insurance coverage as a one-time purchase. Another option is that the sledding event could be covered by the town’s insurance if the event is approved by the town.

The next events meeting is December 16.

b. Public Relations Committee: no updates

c. Capital Campaign & Grants Committee: No news. Betsy said the Capital Campaign Committee will be meeting on January 10 and January 24. Josie said the Grants Committee's activities are on hold for now. The committee is waiting to receive the architect's report.

## 7. Old Business

a. Welcome Sign: Betsy Race met with Trevor Lashua last Friday to talk about the welcome sign for the East Valley. Trevor doesn't know if there's money in the budget for it and is requesting EVCG to provide him with a cost estimate of the sign so he can determine whether the Selectboard needs to act on it. Betsy has contacted a sign company and inquired about the costs for two different sizes.

After Betsy provided the update, there was a discussion on whether the sign should be one sided or two-sided, and what text should be included on the back of the sign. It was suggested that input should be obtained from the larger group. Josie offered to send out an email to the EVCG mail distribution list. She will ask people to submit suggested language for the sign and then she will tabulate the results.

## 8. New Business

a. Architect news: Mark reported that the architectural consultant took measurements and created a computer model of the building (East Valley Community Hall). The architect will meet tomorrow with the structural engineer to discuss the findings. A report on the first phase (review of codes and ADA compliance) is expected by the end of next week. Allison asked how payments will be made to the architectural firm. Mark said the bill will be sent to Allison. Allison said she will forward the bill to the Town and ask the Town to pay for their portion.

b. Election of officers: Betsy told the group that the EVCG officer's terms will be expiring in 2022, so we will need to hold election of officers in the upcoming year (in January).

c. Bank CD questions: Sarah Jolivette reported that she spoke with Brandon at Edwards Jones to discuss whether EVCG should get a CD or other interest bearing account. EVCG has a regular checking account now. Since our group is trying to raise money expressly for the purpose of getting rid of the money (for spending on renovation of the hall), a short term investment doesn't make sense for us. Others in the EVCG group concurred.

d. Josie said there are several households of new people who have moved to the area, and she suggests creating a Greeting Committee to do outreach to the new people. The EVCG group thought this is a good idea and a great way to foster community connections. This is an item to put on an agenda for the Events Committee for further discussion.

9. Next meeting: first Tuesday, January 4, 2021 at 5:30 via Zoom.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM on a motion by Betsy Race, and seconded by Allison Belisle.