

CDICR - Community Engagement Subcommittee

January 24, 2022

Present: Malcolm Doldron, Joan Lancourt, Shana Penna, Roy Youn, Laura Lopez Ortiz

Public: Arthur Conquest, John VanScoyoc, MOC NBC 10 Boston

Other: Caitlin Starr (ODICR), Carolina San Miguel (ODICR)

Minutes

1. New members, Roy and Laura, introduced themselves to the Committee. Welcome!
2. 1/3/22 minutes approved (Malcolm, Joan, Shana approve. Roy and Laura abstained.)
3. Discussion of Precinct Meetings
 - a. Encourage Town Meeting Members in each precinct to get to know their constituents and have a place/form for constituents to hear from TMMs and vice versa and allow for a base level of engagement in each precinct.
 - b. Approach of collaborating with several entities to create a branded effort for precinct meetings (LWV, BIG, CE Committee, and TMMA).
 - c. Have information about these meetings posted on Town Website, SM, shared with networks and call them “Annual Precinct Meetings” with the list of dates for each.
 - i. Ideally TMMs running meeting would note who is attending, new attendees, etc.
 1. Shana volunteered to brainstorm ways to collect this information to measure if these meetings are successfully capturing and engaging constituents.
 - d. Ideally – get Moderator on board and include precinct meetings in the TMM handbook.
 - e. Joan also recommended connecting with Brookline for Everyone and the Progressive Coalition to support or amplify what they are doing to reach residents. Breakthrough Brookline and Schools are another channel to share.
 - f. Roy and Laura shared their experiences with Town Meeting members.
 - i. Roy (precinct 4) has never engaged with TMMs in his precinct, nor has he seen an opportunity to engage.
 - ii. Laura (precinct 5) has also never been engaged by TMMs or seen an opportunity to do so.
 - g. Caitlin shared briefly an update about the Inhabit App and the added layer of Precinct specific content, news and engagement.
 - h. Next steps to process:
 - i. Malcolm would like to get entities locked in before next meeting

1. Jonathan is working with TMMA leadership
 2. Shana will reach out to LWV
 3. Malcolm will reach out to BIG
 4. Meet with collaborators to strategize networking
 5. Meet with Town Meeting Members/Reps – find a channel to tell them this is what can be done, etc.
 6. Committee produces title and objectives of precinct meetings and a guide for agenda items and how to discuss precinct specific.
 - a. Malcolm will draft language and send out after next meeting.
- ii. Discussion of importance of focusing on partnerships.
4. CE Update
- a. Welcome back to Carolina!
 - b. CE Strategist Update:
 - i. Work with Departments is going well; meetings on a monthly basis with CE liaisons with goals to build employee engagement and collaborations to work together.
 - ii. Working on updating SMART goals with the Department and making them more specific/measurable. Depts have been told that they will be invited to CE Committee meetings or feedback on goals.
 - iii. Moving forward on partnerships and how to develop collaborative tools for community engagement.
 - iv. Supporting Planning Department with Housing Production Plan
 - v. Supporting and collaborating with Town Clerks Office to increase voter registration and promote civic engagement (at BHA, in schools, vaccine clinics, etc).
 - vi. Working with Building Department/DPW/Planning to push to implement some strategies with Building
 - c. Malcolm commented that Departments are in different places with goals, can't expect perfection, but would like to see improvement.
 - i. Ex: Planning is doing a lot right now as far as CE. Maybe we can hear from them first and then bring in other front facing Depts (like Police, Fire, Health, etc) to help focus their efforts to measure, track and hold accountable for engagement.
5. Next Meeting:
- a. Monday Feb 7th at 8AM
 - b. Following meeting: Feb 28th at 8AM
6. Public Comment
- a. Arthur Conquest – would like to provide feedback on the CE Plan and will send it around to members of the subcommittee as well as has overall idea of Community Engagement.