

Somers Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC)

Meeting Minutes

8.25.20

Kibbe Fuller School

7:00pm

In Attendance: Glen Reynolds, Bill Shapiro, Tim Keeney, Paul Salva, Allison Maynard, Chris Boucher, Jeff Golden, Dave Marti, Anne Cournoyer

1. Review survey results with committee and identify the unmet needs of the community that may need to be addressed by the town –
 - **Communication seemed to be the biggest issue.**
 - **The school has a very good communication plan in place.**
 - **Further discussion was had regarding improving the messaging out to the town via the website and other social media outlets. Currently information is provided by a number of different areas. Recommend it be more of a coordinated effort funneling through one office. This would also provide a check and balance allowing for the information to be vetted before dissemination. Suggestions included bringing on an IT person, Public Information Officer, Director of Communication/Safety or re-evaluate and realign job responsibilities of existing staffer(s) to manage all outgoing narrative from the town to speak with one voice for both routine and emergent matters. This would include the town website, social media, Somers Connect, Radio, Press releases etc...**
 - **Committee will explore what other towns are doing.**
 - **Jeff to follow up with Capital region as to what emergency notification systems are being used .**
 - **Anne will reach out to Mike Hevey to see how the State Police handle emergency notifications.**
 - **In addition, will reach out to the Long- Term Recovery Coordinator for Region 3, Kim Bona, for guidance as to next steps for the committee.**
 - **We will begin to outline the short- term recovery report.**

2. With the information provided by the surveys, identify what was done well and what could be improved upon as it relates to the Town's response to the COVID-19 pandemic –
 - **As articulated above, communication seems to be the biggest issue and will work on providing more detailed recommendations for final report.**
 - **It should be noted that there was a good response to the survey. The Somers Connect Special Edition (hard copy of the survey) showed to be a good idea.**

Continued review of the surveys and meeting minutes will help frame the recommendations for managing this public health emergency and all other emergencies in the future.

Next meeting: **September 8, 2020**