



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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April Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2009 MEETING

In attendance: Paul Bayer, Joey Glushko, Clare Gordon, Jane Howard, Peter Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Shannon Koenig, Josh Lobel, Angela Olszewski, Miriam Stein.

- The **minutes** of the previous meeting were approved with some corrections.
- Josh Lobel moved to endorse the intent of the “**Welcoming Massachusetts**” immigrant rights initiative, which was presented to the Standing Committee at the March meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **2010 Census:** Angela reported that the Census Bureau wants to establish partnerships to help get everyone counted. The Selectmen have been asked to appoint a “complete count committee.” Vision 2020 will promote the census in the 2010 census insert, and will present information at its Town Day table. The date of the census is 4/1/2010.
- The Selectmen have voted “No Action” on the **warrant article** for a fund for after-school activities. We need to have a substitute motion ready for Town Meeting.
- The **census survey** had over 3800 responses, a 20% return rate. Only about 1 out of 12 were done by e-mail, and these still need to be added to the results scanned from paper replies. Results are to be presented to Town Meeting in May.
- **Task Group reports:**
 - Peter Howard reported that **Fiscal Resources** was reviewing the Town’s ability to carry out the five-year plan. The Town seems to be doing fairly well so far. FR will report on its study to Town Meeting.
 - The **Governance** task group has updated the “Settling In” brochure and is checking on the cost of a larger format with a pocket for storing additional items.
 - **Diversity:** The Job Fair was a big success; 18 employers participated, and both people with and without disabilities attended. Unfortunately the *Arlington Advocate* did not send a reporter. The New England Collaborative collected demographic information at the door and will send us a report. Any future jobs fair should be 2-2½ rather than 3 hours.
 - **Environment:** Spv Pond is continuing to work on the projects reported in March; fertilizer flyer distribution is complete. Marlene Cole attended the March 31 meeting to promote her project to get people to use native plants. Reservoir is getting to work on planning the habitat garden. Sustainable Arlington: The current Energy Smackdown will end in May; the competition will go national next year. A couple of members are starting a book group; perhaps a book on sustainability could be chosen for next year’s Town Read? A national rally for carbon emissions reduction is being planned for October 28.
- **Town Hall Topics:**
 - The Town will hire an **energy manager**; 76 people applied for Town positions at the job fair.
 - The Selectmen voted “No Action” on the **Green Dog** proposal but Clarissa Rowe is in favor.
 - The proposed **CVS** at the Hodgdon-Noyes site is drawing opposition from neighbors; the permitting process is still going on.
- **Events:**

- Candidates' Night went well; the Ecofest and the Job Fair were smashing successes.
- Town Meeting starts with the **State of the Town** address at 7 p.m. Monday, April 27. Standing Committee members are asked to bring refreshments. Chairpersons are asked to send e-mail invitations to members of their task groups.
- The Jason Russell House – Smith Museum or the Arlington Center for the Arts were mentioned as possible sites for the **year-end celebration** in June.