

Middlesex Town Meeting Solutions Committee

**Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2018  
6:00 p.m. Rumney Elementary School**

Present: Susan Clark, Tim Murphy, Janette Shaffer, Dave Shepard, Barb Whitchurch, Greg Whitchurch

Guest: Rob Chapman, ORCA Media

**1. Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2018 Meeting**

Due to an oversight by the secretary, the draft meeting minutes for the January 16, 2018 meeting were not available for review and approval.

**2. Potential Assistance from ORCA with Remote Town Meeting Participation (RTMP)**

ORCA Media expressed interest in providing equipment assistance with RTMP and potentially broadcasting Town Meeting. Janette had contacted ORCA about whether they could assist RTMP by providing an improved camera that could be used on Town Meeting day for any RTMP participants. Susan described the differences between Town Meeting, where the voters are the legislative body, and the city council and select board meetings that ORCA broadcasts on a routine basis. Rob Chapman said ORCA has streamed meetings with an ability for viewers to comment via a chat room. He said ORCA could help with the video aspect of RTMP.

**3. Rumney School Board Meet the Candidates Forum**

A public forum will be held on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Rumney School with the four candidates for two positions on the Rumney School Board that will be contested at Town Meeting. ORCA will likely be able to video record the event and make it available on their website. Live streaming might not be possible given the short timeframe until the event. The format for the forum will follow a League of Women's Voters format with written questions submitted and read to the candidates by the moderator. Susan will be the moderator. Questions can be written out at the forum or submitted via email prior to the event. Tim, Barb and Dave along with some of the candidates will help with providing refreshments.

**4. Town Meeting Preparation**

The post Town Meeting meal is organized and will include pot-luck dessert. Community Connections will be providing child care during the meeting. Barb has distributed flyers advertising RTMP. Town meeting related postings on Front Porch Forum will include RTMP and the availability of transportation to Town Meeting. The letter to be sent to new Middlesex voters was ready for mailing and the mailing was prepared during this meeting

**5. Petitions at Rumney School**

In an informal conversation with the Assistant Secretary of State, Susan learned that it was likely that Rumney School can make rules about whether to allow the circulating of petitions within the school building. Susan suggested a conversation with the Principal about any concerns regarding this issue and potential for a compromise.

Next meeting: Sometime in April with the specific date to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Dave Shepard, Secretary

DRAFT