

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, January 25, 2016**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell, Mike Nelson, and Rich Kuklewicz. Town Administrator Frank Abbondanzio (absent) and Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz

**Approve minutes of January 4 and 11 2016**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the minutes of January 4, 2016. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2016. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

**Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment:**

Charles Kelley: Informs the Board he is going to issue a complaint to with the Mass. Division of Telecommunication and Cable stating the residents of Montague ask the Commission enforce 207 CMR 2.00: General Rules. Section 3.05 states no license renewal may be granted or denied without a prior public hearing with prior public notice pursuant to 207 CMR 2.02. Furthermore, I'm going to request the Commission request technical assistance and oversights to protect the internet service consumer's rights. In light of the bias shown by this issuing authority, we are asking the Commission conduct the public hearing.

**Bruce Hunter, FCRHRA**

Bruce introduces new Director of FCRHRA, Francis Feeney

**Authorization to disburse No. 3, Invoice #1.2015-18-5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$1,330.00**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve Invoice #1.2015-18-5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, Phase 2, contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$1,330.00. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Authorization to disburse No. 4, Invoice #1.2015-18-4&5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,167.50**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve Invoice #1.2015-18-4&5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, Phase 1, contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,167.50. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Change Order #5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, Mountain View Landscapes & Lawncare, Inc. \$3,644.00 Credit**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the Change Order #5, Avenue A Streetscape Enhancement Project, Phase I, Mountain View Landscapes & Lawncare, Inc. \$3,644.00 Credit. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

Bruce will be working with Jon Dobosz for updates to Norma Park in Lake Pleasant during next grant round

**Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent**

**Execute Task Order No. 4A to Master Services Agreement Between Town of Montague and CDM Smith, Inc., \$30,000**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to Execute Task Order No. 4A to Master Services Agreement Between Town of Montague and CDM Smith, Inc., \$30,000. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Execute Task Order No. 6 to Master Services Agreement Between Town of Montague and CDM Smith, Inc.**  
Will be put on next weeks agenda

**Execute 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Inspection Report and Corrective Action DEP Form**

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DEP inspects transfer station then lets us know what needs to be brought up to snuff. Right now they are saying the gate is not locked all the time. The reason the gate is open is because the DPW uses it daily to bring product in and out, plus the fuel station is there. I have been discussing the possibility of the new garage and obviously if that happens the storage shed will have to be relocated. There is a shed we have used for storage, the floor is rotted out and people are not putting the correct items in there. They wanted the building taken down or boarded up permanently. There are other house cleaning issues that need to be taken care of. We also have an oil collection barrel there that needs to have a roof put over it and I have asked them if we could wait a year.

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to accept and execute to the extent possible the repairs or remediation as issued by our recent third party DEP inspection. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell- Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Town Administrators Report  
Millers Falls Road Embankment Project**

Nelson: Tom, Walter and I met with the Engineer a few weeks ago and it is pretty gray whose fault it might have been. In our opinion it was not fiscally responsible to go after this issue in court. That being said, we met in executive session and we asked my colleagues if we should pursue the issue or back down. The board decided not to pursue legally but to ask both parties involved to make a donation of good will. Both donated \$2,500 to RiverCulture and some of the money will be used to repaint signs in Town. We will look at using other money to make other improvements downtown and will be meeting to discuss this in February. I am pleased with the way things worked out.

Kuklewicz: Feels Tom and Walter did a good job when the project ran into a snag and came up with other solutions.

**CoRaJus  
Discussion regarding possible trainings for Town Staff**

Rodney Madison, Don Wright, Swan Keyes, Abbazero, Ayana Masla

Nelson: I received an email today saying CoRaJus would not be coming to the meeting tonight, but representatives from SEED would be.

Madison: We are pleased that the Board of Selectmen of Montague has expressed interest in undertaking a cultural sensitivity training program. Thank you for inviting this proposal. The diversity of a community can be its greatest strength if leaders make an ongoing commitment to ensure that the community is inclusive and respectful of all its constituents. Montague prides itself on a lively arts community and in recent years has welcomed in many new residents, businesses and other stakeholders who particularly wish to contribute to creating a dynamic downtown in the Village of Turners Falls. As in any community, efforts must be taken to ensure that all members feel welcome. A community thrives when all of its stakeholders feel heard, understood, informed and included in decisions that impact them. When tensions arise between people of different cultures—as they will—a healthy community has leaders who embrace the opportunity to learn and grow from these challenges. When leaders show that they are interested in understanding cultural and ethnic differences this community gains a reputation for being progressive and attractive to new businesses, residents and visitors. When leaders resist change and growth, and neglect to devote time and resources to addressing these issues, their community's reputation inevitably becomes tarnished and economic development is stifled. It is our aim to assist Montague to be a creative haven that is known to be unusually responsive to its residents and businesses, knowledgeable about different cultures, and harmonious in its relationships—in short, a great place to live, raise a family, run a business, work, visit and enjoy for generations to come.

Swan Keyes goes over handout as follows:

**Project Outline**

A group of community leaders will meet once per month for three hours for cultural diversity education. These leaders will include the Board of Selectmen, the Chief of Police (and hopefully chiefs of the fire departments as well), and other key representatives to be identified by the Board of Selectmen and program organizers.

**Topics to be Addressed**

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- The racial history and changing demographics of Montague
- Understanding basic principles of race, racism, and how to build bridges across difference!
- Assessing and understanding the needs of different constituencies and populations in Montague
- Relationship-building between town officials, business people, residents, and others
- Principles and elements of creating harmonious community!

**Outcomes**

At the end of this program, participants will have a shared understanding of the unique cultural challenges and opportunities facing the Town of Montague and in particular the village of Turners Falls. Participants will have tools to address cultural conflicts between the town's constituents. Participants will have reviewed town procedures to ensure that constituents have ways to address future conflicts with greater ease. There will be a strong sense of commitment and collaboration between people of many different racial and cultural backgrounds in Montague, as well as a greater sense of connection between town leaders, residents, business people, and other stakeholders. Town leadership will be better prepared to welcome in new members of the community and articulate the town's commitment to maintaining a thriving, inclusive environment. An ongoing committee of town leaders, residents, business people and other stakeholders will be developed to ensure that this training leads to sustained progress. Print media and social media outreach will have been implemented to highlight the town's commitment to maintaining a respectful and diverse community.

**Logistics**

An initial committee of approximately 12 members will be invited by the Board of Selectmen and program organizers to participate in this 6-month workshop series. This committee will comprise a Core Group of members who will commit to attend all sessions of the program (barring illness or emergency) There will be meetings and events at which others will be invited to attend, including a public presentation and a block party at the conclusion of the training program. The Core Group of 12 members will meet once per month for three hours with facilitators and guest presenters. Start date will be determined based on availability of Core Group members. Facilitators are prepared to begin as early as February 2016, although we anticipate that additional time may be needed to coordinate Core Group members schedules. Each meeting will include an educational presentation and group discussion to help all participants develop understanding and awareness about issues of cultural diversity. This workshop series will create a challenging and highly supportive environment where all participants will have a chance to express their views and listen to those of the other members.

**Organizer, Presenters and Facilitators**

The initiating organizer of this program is Rodney Madison, artist, community activist, and the sole African-American business owner in Montague, who requested that the town address this issue and recruited cultural sensitivity trainers for the workshop series.

Swan Keyes, LMFT serves as the coordinator and program administrator for this workshop series, as well as one of the primary program facilitators, along with co-facilitator Kerrita K. Mayfield, PhD.; Don Wright, representative of the SEED program ([nationalseedproject.org](http://nationalseedproject.org)), will serve as a presenter, introducing participants to aspects of the SEED peer education model. In addition, guest presenters of different cultural backgrounds, representing various constituencies in the Town of Montague, will offer presentations at the monthly meetings. Kerrita K. Mayfield, PhD, is a seasoned educator, author, public speaker, researcher, counselor, curriculum developer, and creative visionary who specializes in creating stronger, more inclusive and engaging, outcome-oriented learning communities Based in Millers Falls, Dr. Mayfield has over 20 years' teaching experience at schools such as University of Massachusetts, Vassar College, University of Wyoming, Skyview High School, Holyoke High School, Fort Vancouver High School, and The Rivers School and has served on the board of director of many organizations, including Greenfield Center School. Swan Keyes, LMFT, is a Montague-born psychotherapist, antioppression educator, and nonprofit development consultant with over 15 years' experience teaching principles and practices of racial justice, cross-cultural communication and organizational development. She specializes in helping white people to understand their racial conditioning and become more effective at fighting racism, and served for 7 years as a core trainer in the national UNtraining racism program ([untraining.org](http://untraining.org)). She has also designed and led numerous programs addressing classism, sexism, heterosexism and other intersecting forms of social oppression. Clients include University of California School of Social Work, Occidental College, Sarah Lawrence College, John F. Kennedy University, San Francisco State University, California Institute of Integral Studies, Merritt College, Laney College, National

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Association of Student Co-ops, Police Officers of Hartford, CT, Spirit Rock Meditation Center, Buddhist Peace Fellowship, Unitarian Church of El Cerrito and many other educational, civic and spiritual organizations

**Financial and Logistical Requirements**

The cost for planning, implementation, and facilitation of the 6-month program is \$3,000. Additional costs include supplies such as notebooks, pens, art supplies and photocopied materials, not to exceed a total of \$300 (these may be donated by the Town of Montague or purchased by organizers with funds provided by the Town, at the Board of Selectmen's discretion), as well as refreshments for participants at monthly meetings and contributions of food and beverages for the public presentation and block party at the conclusion of the 6-month program, which may be purchased or donated by locally-owned business. The ideal location is the Shea Theater, a site where small group discussions, presentations, and interactive activities may be accommodated.

Discussion held about when trainings would be held and the importance of attendance at these trainings, who should be attending

Suggestion to call this a workshop rather than a training where every voice is heard. The board likes this suggestion.

Touch base again on February 8<sup>th</sup> Training for community leaders

**Town Administrators Report**

**Adopt 2016 Summer Meeting Schedule**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to accept the summer meeting schedule as presented. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

**Open Meeting Law – acknowledge receipt of complaints filed by Charles Kelley on January 6, 2016 and January 14, 2016 relating to the Town's cable contract, and authorize a response thereto, votes may be taken**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to acknowledge receipt of complaints filed by Charles Kelley on January 6, 2016 and January 14, 2016 relating to the Town's cable contract, and authorize a response thereto. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

**Other**

The Town Administrator will be returning on February 1 on a limited basis to start with.

**Dissolution of the Planter Committee**

Nelson: I met with Mr. Jensen who helped me go through the planter guidelines and I was under the impression the Planter Committee selected the Planter Coordinator that was then suggested to the Board of Selectmen for appointment. When I reread it with David, I realize it is the group of "active participants" who is defined as business owners, property owners, sponsors and gardeners who at the beginning and ending of each growing season meet twice a year to evaluate the program, consider policy changes, and review the results of appeals. That fall meeting shall submit one or more names to the Selectmen as Planter Coordinator. We were under the impression it was submitted by that committee. In speaking with David it is suggested we dissolve the planter committee as their job was to create the policy.

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to dissolve the Planter Committee. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell- Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Appoint Gary Konvelski to the Planter Coordinator**

Kuklewicz makes the motion to appoint Gary Konvelski as Planter Coordinator effective January 25, 2016 to June 30, 2017. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Discussion was held about appointment date.

**Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements**

Kuklewicz would like to invite Gina McNeely, Director of Board of Health to a future meeting to work on a broad reaching and policy for the noise ordinance policy

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**Release and approval of Executive Session Minutes from 01/04/16 meeting relative to litigation regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline; 01/04/16 meeting relative to litigation regarding the Millers Falls Road Embankment Project; executive session and open session, pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(2) expected, votes may be taken**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to release the minutes of January 4, 2016 meeting relative to litigation regarding the Millers Falls Road Embankment Project. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye.*

Minutes regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline will be discussed in Executive Session.

**Executive Session under G.L. c 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss potential litigation, Regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline, Votes may be taken**

Nelson declares doing this in open session will be detrimental to public

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to go into executive session at 8:20 PM to discuss minutes of Executive Session from 01/04/16 meeting relative to litigation regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline; and further to go into Executive Session under G.L. c 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss potential litigation, Regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline, Votes may be taken. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to release minutes of Executive Session from 01/04/16 meeting relative to litigation regarding Kinder Morgan Pipeline. Seconded by Boutwell. Boutwell- Nay, Kuklewicz – Nay, Nelson - Nay*

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

**List of Documents and Exhibits:**

- Authorization to disburse No. 3, Invoice #1.2015-18-5
- Authorization to disburse No. 4, Invoice #1,2015-18-4&5
- Change Order #5
- Task Order No4A
- DEP third Party Inspection Report and Corrective Action Plan
- 2016 Summer Meeting Schedule
- Charles Kelley Complaint