

## Craftsbury Neighbor to Neighbor September 20, 2029

### Participants:

Deb  
Kris  
Michelle  
Tim  
Kit  
Effie  
Gina

Meeting Schedule: The group agreed to meet once a month - early in the month, and then set another date at that meeting in case it's needed within the month. After reviewing other town meeting days and times, the first Thursday at 7:00 was chosen. **October 1st is the next meeting.**

The group also agreed to have a running Google doc draft agenda and updates that task force members can contribute to at anytime in order to stay in touch between meetings. Kris will use the document to finalize the agenda prior to each meeting.

Budget Review: Michelle provided a spread sheet showing N2N donations and expenses. There's \$2,867 dollars remaining. In addition there is \$225 in the initial \$1,000 New England Grass Roots grant and \$2500 Deb's Church grant fund.

Kris reported that there is research underway on the Pop up Pantry becoming part of the VT Food Bank network. Kris is confident the Craftsbury/Albany program will be able to maintain its unique characteristics. Kris and others will be meeting with the VT Food Bank next week.

Funds may be needed to cover costs - \$1,000 per week before the arrangement with the Food Bank is finalized. The group agreed to use the Church funds to cover for a couple of weeks. Receipts will be needed for expenses. In addition, a few key philanthropic donations may be necessary. More will be known next week. Deb and Emily are available to ask key donors if need be.

Kris reported that Food Pantry numbers go up and down. No patterns per se.

Monday dinners have benefitted from the Everyone Eats grant - second week. Up to 150 participants now. Money must be spent by December 18th. Might consider preparing and freezing the meals if it looks like the money all wont be spent by then.

The group discussed the possibility of holding an event on the Common - an end of the summer picnic that will include the Everyone Eats food. The group recognized that state outdoor gatherings are limited to 150. Planning would have to be underway

soon. If there are folks interested in making this a reality they should be in touch with Kris.

Kris has reached out to the Church on the Common to make the Church a winter home and eventually a permanent home for the pantry. Discussions are underway. There's a new freezer and fridge in storage. Other location options might be explored.

There are efforts underway to get the word out regarding utility assistance and wood.

Louise is researching state business stimulus grants.

CN2N survey results are in. Michelle will make results available to the task force members. Loneliness and isolation was stated as an issue for many.

There was some discussion about reinvigorating letter writing program for those who are isolated. Get students involved? Kris will raise the possibility with the CA SLA.

September 20th remembrance event will take place on the Common. Anne Marie Keppel is organizing. Opportunity to take stock of and reflect on losses.

On September 27th there will be a suicide prevention walk in Craftsbury.