CAB Meeting 11.7.19

In attendance: Taylor Welch, Alex MIhavics, Chuck, Darla Senecal, John Kromer, Frank Guier, Ray Beaver

Updates
Attendance: October 2019 : 309 teens signed into Hub. This figure is 18% lower than October of 2018.  Monthly numbers are steadily increasing from the start of the school year.  In the future it will be helpful and informative to consider the enrollment at mt Abe each year when doing year by year comparisons.  The community forum on Tuesday night brought up some interesting numbers that would have a direct effect on the attendance numbers at the Hub.

New ‘No smoking/vaping’ signs have arrived and 6 have already been put up around the skate park and Hub area.  The Hub has about 5 more signs stored in the back room for future use.  Hub staff have noticed a decrease in the number of teens vaping at or around the skatepark.  This could also have to do with the temperature dropping and wet skatepark conditions.

Facility update: Chuck completed the patching of the backroom hole. (with donated/found materials, Thanks Chuck!)

Plans:
Greenhouse: Taylor has continued planning and researching potential designs for a greenhouse.  Would be worth considering asking the Rec Club if they’d like to be involved through a monetary donation to increase community involvement.  Gardeners supply might also be worth checking in on for supplies/equipment or grants.  Darla will pass along contact information.  Almost all materials for the temporary structure have been dropped off by Frank.  The temporary greenhouse would act as a starter for the program to build interest and involvement while the funding is secured for a permanent structure.
Recording Studio: Regarding funding, Taylor has already secured $200 from Guitar Center to go towards equipment.  Ben and Jerrys grant is focused on funding the construction
Burton Chill Program: The hub checked in on the possibility of partnering with Burton’s Chill program (which provides snowboarding lessons to teens) however one obstacle is transporting teens to Burlington to then go to the mountain.  in the past the teens were transported from the Hub to the mountain, but now the program requires all teens ride the bus from burlington since they include programming and lessons on the bus.
Dungeons and Dragons: First session last week on Friday (day off from school) had 5 participants. Looking to make it into a weekly 1-2 hour session.
Ramp Plans: Staff have discussed the merits of converting the indoor quarter pipe ramp into a stage.  Initial plan is to use existing ramp lumber and the donate the unused ramp pieces.  Main reasons for this: Quarter pipe is difficult to use indoors because the skaters don’t have enough space to build enough momentum to get up the ramp, also only 2 teens in the past year have used the ramp. Finally the ramp has a rather large footprint inside the Hub which could be utilized more efficiently.

5-Town Presentation: The Rec Department met with the Lincoln select board on Tuesday to discuss current programming and events as well as provide an update on the number of participants in Hub programming who are from Lincoln.
Skating equipment update:  The Hub has purchased new helmets, pads and skateboards through the RISE VT grant.  This has brought up the question of how best to ensure that all teens understand that they must take and wear a helmet if they borrow Hub skateboards or scooters.  It would be worth checking in with VLCT to make sure any waivers  are worded properly.  The plan is to enact the new helmet policy in spring 2020.
The Hub is planning to put on a summer music series with 5 Town Friends of the Arts.  (another reason a bigger/better stage would be useful)

Training:
Taylor completed a facilitator training with NOT (Not on Tobacco) along with several staff from Mt Abe.  The best way to utilize this training would be to work with the school to help enhance their program. The Hub can act as a meeting space for both one on ones and groups.

Quick grant update:
Shaw grant for greenhouse: did not get
Home Depot grant for greenhouse/supplies and equipment: in application process
VCAT (Ben and Jerrys) for recording studio: application complete, waiting for results
Walmart grant for food: in application process

Facility Issue:
With daylight savings time, the parking lot gets very dark around 6pm when the Hub closes.  A while ago the Hub used to have flood lights to help light the sidewalk and parking lot.  It would be great to pursue some sort of solar flood light again.  Work with the Rec club to come up with a solution that works for everyone (Sodbusters, legion, etc.) In the meantime, try to adjust the current exterior lights to shine on the parking lot more than the building itself.

Loose ends / ideas / questions:

 • The Hub should consider pursuing funding for special projects through the American Legion or Neat Repeats.  A written request was all that they required in the past.  Service clubs are required to donate a certain amount each year so all the hub has to do is get involved (volunteer at an event to startup a relationship)

 • Ray would like to help out with Tacos once a week. Mondays work best for him.
Idea: the Hub runs a 3 on 3 basketball tournament at the hockey rink courts in May as a fundraiser (split between Peter Quinn fund and the Hub)  Ray is willing to make initial calls to see about funding.  Could be for teens or adults or both, coed or boys/girls.  Taylor and Alex will check on Rec Dept calendar to see if there are any conflicts in May.  Possible expenses would be t-shirts for each player, regulation balls, concessions.  (no refs needed)

 • The Hub is planning on providing concessions as a fundraising opportunity for ice skating events at the skating rink this winter.

 • Suggestion: The hub sends out a bi-weekly email update to a growing list of interested parties with quick updates on happenings at the Hub.  Even if people don’t respond or come to CAB meetings, they are still receiving information on a regular basis.  This goes a long way toward de-bunking pre-conceived notions about the Hub from folks who haven’t visited in several years.

 • No new updates about future building plans for the Teen Center/Rec dept.  As of now all those plans are on hold until further notice.