

Draft minutes
Montague Business Association Member Meeting
Dec. 10, 2013
Greenfield Savings Bank
8-9 a.m.

Suzanne LoManto—River\Culture
Linda Ackerman—Greenfield Savings Bank
Stephan Smith—Rist Insurance
Kara McLaughlin—Gill Montague Community School Partnership
Lynne Rudie—Graphic Design
Holly Givens-Writer (and MBA administrative coordinator)

Draft Agenda:

1. Introductions (10 minutes)
2. Gill-Montague Community School Partnership (15 minutes)

New youth recognition project

Partnership funding ended Oct. 1; but there are still some programs continuing. Kara will be back in the spring after maternity leave

New project will recognize ‘upstanders’ those youth in the community who step forward to stop bullying or diffuse potential bullying. MBA could support this by endorsing it, and by offering coupons to youth as part of the recognition. The Partnership plans to purchase coupons; wants to make sure businesses would honor them Greenfield Savings offered to participate with \$10 per month gift card.

MBA supports this program, and will help publicize the project as well..

Open-ended conversation about how to boost revenue to enable more association activity.

Ideas included: bags for shredding?

Encouraging new members—steering committee offered to follow up with contacts

Feedback from former member is that he only hears from MBA when we want money, and the meeting seem to just to have meetings.

Perhaps the association needs something to rally around?

Used to have lunch with legislators.

Is the goal fundraising or participation?

What do other associations do that worked?

Could we partner with someone, like the Chamber of Commerce?

Coming up:

ThirdThursday Turners Falls next year will be:

April

May

June

July

September

December (It's a Wonderful night?)

Businesses with feedback about this project are welcome to share with MBA, or RiverCulture.