

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY FUND

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 at 11 am via Zoom

Invitees: Amy Brady, Brigid Browning, Theresa Mann met with David Carkeet and Liz Scharf

Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Background of the idea of the Fund
- Work of setting up structure of the Fund
- Next Steps

Notes:

After introductions Dave and Liz explained how the Middlesex Food Shelf was no longer operating as a food shelf (due to expense and lack of attendance) and that Dave had been instead distributing \$200 grants to mostly Middlesex residents who were suffering from food insecurity. Dave reported that \$11,600 had been raised and distributed (78 checks to 24 households) through informal requests. Liz expressed how this much funding going to Middlesex residents showed a true local need. Previously the shelf had mostly served people living outside of Middlesex. Dave reported most funds were raised through Front Page Forum and that currently there is \$1,800 in the shelf bank account.

The group discussed how ideally the Middlesex Fund would do more than distribute cash grants, that it would be a fund that the community could access for scholarships or for projects that would benefit the town and its residents. Folks agreed to call the fund the Middlesex Community Fund. Brigid volunteered to serve as registering agent with the IRS and the state as she was familiar with the process. Folks discussed the need for a more formal process to be put in place for distributing money. Brigid volunteered to call other funds to ask about their process. The group agreed to setting up a PO box for a mailing address.

The group also discussed the development of a website and email address. At 1:38 pm the call ended.