



Advisory Committee Meeting – October 22, 2020 -ZOOM
Due to COVID-19 we held our fifth annual Advisory Committee meeting on Zoom

On October 22nd twenty-six members of our community joined us on screen to discuss the current culture on Nantucket and community concerns that need to be addressed. Margaretta Andrews opened the meeting with a quick overview of the meeting goals and an update on CFN's newest fund, the Nantucket Fund for Emergency Relief. Since March, this fund has awarded over \$1million in grants to support organizations providing essential services to our Island. Bob Felch provided a history of how this committee has helped inform and advise CFN over the past four years.

The focus of the meeting was **Community Wellbeing**. For this meeting, we defined Community Wellbeing as the combination of social, economic, environmental, cultural, and health conditions identified by individuals and their communities as essential for them to flourish and fulfill their potential.

Committee members received four questions to be answered prior to the meeting to help them prepare.

1. On a scale of 1 -10, how would you rate community wellbeing on Nantucket and why?
2. What are the things that are missing or weak in our community that impacts your rating of community wellbeing on Nantucket?
3. What is one thing you feel would make a positive difference to our community's overall wellbeing?
4. What can CFN do to positively impact community wellbeing on Nantucket today and in the future?

The findings of our gathering are summarized below:

1. The committee rated Nantucket's community wellbeing an average score of 6.3. During the meeting the committee members were then asked what would make it a perfect 10. While there were many different responses, most of the answers centered around **affordable housing** and affordable **senior housing**. We learned that the Landmark House has a waiting list of 100, and that someone could wait 4-5 years to get an apartment.
2. Other focus areas suggested by committee members that were missing and or weak in our community were:
 - Lack of a day treatment or inpatient treatment for **mental health** patients.
 - Lack of involvement on community boards and committees from different ethnic stakeholders.

- **Affordable childcare** which can be linked to almost all the issues discussed during the meeting. If families don't have a safe affordable place to leave their children, they will struggle with every other aspect of their lives.
 - **Equity** for people of color, **Racism** on Nantucket is strong on everyone's radar and should not be ignored.
 - **Early Education** in addition to childcare was mentioned. The fact that both Senior housing and early education mentioned, leading members to suggest that these services could be combined on a campus together.
3. The committee spent a great deal of time discussing **diversity, equity and inclusion**. It is evident that our community is full of talented individuals from all backgrounds. It was suggested that CFN provide information about civil and community service opportunities to individuals in our community, particularly people of color who may have never been asked before. It was also suggested that CFN could offer a course in what it takes to be on a board. The committee also noted that it is important to make space for young people on boards and invite them in to learn more about your organization. It was clear that we have wonderful members of our community with strong skill sets that need to be brought to the table.
4. In response to the question of what CFN can do to positively impact community wellbeing on Nantucket today and in the future, the following suggestions were made:
- a. To make a positive difference in our community, we as community leaders can't let the Arts & Culture community be forgotten during the pandemic.
 - b. It was suggested that we consider consolidating all scholarships in our community.
 - c. Create a dashboard to share with the Advisory Committee with specific metrics related to community wellbeing.

To conclude the meeting, Carlisle explained that we would like to keep this committee active this winter. The staff plans on convening small groups and/or calling members of the committee individually to discuss specific subjects in greater length.

In attendance:

Staff & Board- Geoff Verney, Bob Felch, Margaretta Andrews, Carlisle Jensen and Jeanne Miller

Advisors:

Karen Beattie

Jason Bridges

Steve Davis

Ella Finn

Jamie Foster

Libby Gibson

Chris Glowacki

Jason Graziadei

Anne Kuszpa

Joe Hale

Wendy Hudson

Tim Madden

Nick Ouellette

Roberto Santamaria

Georgia Snell

Marianne Stanton

David Worth

Taylor Hilst

Jennifer Psaradelis

Ann Scott

Kimal McCarthy