December Update on Parkland Hills Village (PHV)

On October 4, we held an introductory meeting in which about 20 people were in attendance. There was a presentation regarding the Village concept and the main steps we would need to take to form the PHV. People discussed what interests them and concerns them regarding the Village model. We decided to plan a meeting of people considering serving on a steering committee.

On November 3, eight of us met to discuss the formation of a steering committee and to establish subcommittees to deal with several critical steps we need to take sooner rather than later. Three of us volunteered for the subcommittee on forming a non-profit corporation, two of us volunteered for the subcommittee to research insurance options and feasibility, and one volunteered to explore the availability of help in developing a website. (If any of you have expertise in developing websites -- or any of the other areas -- and would like to help in that effort, please let us know.) One person expressed interest in looking into models for volunteer and member handbooks and procedures for vetting volunteers.

On December 1, we had a meeting of the steering committee, including a new member, who will serve on the subcommittee that will propose volunteer and member handbooks and procedures for vetting volunteers. One of the people on the insurance subcommittee will not continue to serve on the subcommittee or the steering committee, but will remain involved with PHV. (So we can particularly use help on the insurance subcommittee as well as the website committee. Again, let us know if you would like to help with either of these subcommittees.) In discussing the incorporation bylaws, we tentatively agreed that most decisions would be made by some form of consensus and that the PHV board will ultimately be elected by the general PHV membership. We also had a 30-minute-long conference call with Chris Wentz, the founder and former president of the Village in the Village in Corrales. Although Corrales differs from Parkland Hills geographically, demographically, and economically, we picked up a lot of useful nuts-and-bolts information from Chris.

We will be planning a potluck for all those interested in PHV on Sunday, January 28, 2018, from 5 PM to 8 PM. During the potluck, we will take some time to give a short presentation on PHV and the Village to Village concept and entertain questions. (Meanwhile, check out the Village to Village Network's website, vtvnetwork.org.) Please let us know if you plan to come. We will send out a reminder some time in January. The potluck will take place at the home of Mara Hoffman.