COMMON DENOMINATOR TOUR

Steven Borne "Consuming Government"

CDT Discussion

NH Resources

National Political Organizations

Consuming Government

Rye Civic League

Listening Circles

New Hampshire Resources

Citizen's Count

NH Listens

New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

Plan NH

Leadership NH

StayWorkPlay NH

NHPR Civics 101

Open Democracy

Citizen's Count Website tool

"Inspiring NH Citizens to Make a Difference"

- Federal and State Elected Official Information
- Candidate Profiles and Survey questions
- Understanding the Issues – Bi-partisan explanations of key questions (Federal and State)
- Citizen Voices "online discussions" Moderated
- Centralized News
- Summaries of New Hampshire Bills under discussion
- Funded by NH Businesses and individuals

NH Listens UNH Carsey School of Public Policy

- Mission: *To bring people together for engaged conversations*
- NH Listens & the many local "Listens" groups help Communities move forward on divisive or difficult decisions.
- Questions can be local or regional
- 5 Year Report is a great overview (2020 will be their 10th anniversary)
- Current Local Listens Groups: Dover, Nashua, Newmarket, North Country, Ossipee, Pittsfield, Portsmouth and Rochester
- Listening Circles

NH Cooperative Extension

- UNH Extension works in four broad topic areas: Youth and Family Development, Community and Economic Development, Natural Resources and Food and Agriculture.
- Community & Economic Development has four focus areas
  - Economic Development Planning (Growing Communities)
  - Building Community Leaders and Planning – helps a community execute on a plan (Community Leaders)
  - How to engage with local businesses (Business Engagement)
  - Integrating and supporting tourism and recreation activity (Nature Economy)
- Extension builds the capacity of communities to lead change. There are nominal fees for some of Extension's programs.

Plan NH

- **Mission:** is to foster excellence in planning and design and development of New Hampshire's built environment to support a Vision of healthy and vibrant communities in the Granite State
- A Plan NH Charette brings in Planning, Architect, Design and other experts who engage with the community and over two days deliver a set of recommendations
- Helps communities get unstuck with planning options. Typically town centers and community spaces.
- Communities submit an application, once accepted there is a $6000 fee. Final report sent several weeks later.

Leadership NH

- In 1991 at the request of Governor Gregg, NH Residents met and worked for two years and published NH: My Responsibility
- From that came Leadership NH with the mission of: "*increase civic engagement and strengthen communities through connecting and educating a diverse pool of engaged or emerging leaders about the state of New Hampshire.*"
- State Leadership NH participants, get nominated, apply and get accepted for the program that run from Sept to May.
- Local Leadership NH are shorter programs and can be found in these communities. Dover Citizen's Leadership Academy, Greater Concord, Greater Manchester, Greater Nashua, Greater Rochester, Lakes Region, Londonderry, Monadnock, Mt. Washington Valley, Seacoast, Upper Valley

Stay, Work, Play NH

- Mission: "To attract and retain more young people in NH"
- A 501(c)3 created in 2009 from the Governor's Task Force for the Recruitment and Retention of a Young Workforce for New Hampshire

NHPR Civics 101

- Podcast program that is a refresher for how our government works
- It is only a refresher for those who once understood this, many can't answer direct questions about the structure, process and boundaries of our government
- Started in 2018 with many episodes available
  - Transcripts available of past episodes
- Working to get schools and students involved

Open Democracy

- NH based group that picks up where Granny D left off. Coalition of groups who work in NH to take big money out of politics
- In addition to the NH Rebellion they are working on:
  - Establishing small doner, ,voter-owned elections
  - End gerrymandering, and modernizing voting
  - Eradicate Super PACs & Neutralize Citizen's United
  - Expose unlimited Dark Money
  - Eliminate Pay-to-Play lobbyist & contractor donations
  - Enforce campaign finance laws & close loopholes

National Political Organizations

Equal Citizenship

Unite America

No Labels

National Hodge podge

- There are several hundred non-partisan groups that can be grouped into:

a) Increasing Civic Engagement

b) Addressing systematic problems with our democracy (money, gerrymandering, voting rights..)

c) Getting elected officials to be responsive to the people and not parties

National Hodge podge

Civic Engagement

Citizen's Count, Rye Civic League, Civics 101….

Pre- Election

Fixing the Systematic problems

Citizen's United, Gerrymandering, Voting rights….

Post Election

Government in Office

No Labels, ……

Hundreds of un-coordinated groups

Bridge Alliance – attempting to connect them

National Association of non-partisan reformers

Most groups say – send money, we are working on it..

Equal Citizenship (pre-election)

- Mission: Dedicated to reforms that will achieve citizen equality
- Focus is on fixing how our democracy works, since the current process creates dysfunction or radical policy pendulum swings
- Platform: Equal Representation, Equal Dependence (big money), Equal Freedom to Vote
- Campaigns: POTUS1 – Pushing the platform on Presidential Candidates, NH Democracy Town Halls- Getting Candidates to state their positions on the platform, Ranked Choice Voting,
- Get Involved: join mailing list, listen to Another Way Podcats,

Unite America (pre-election)

- Foundation that invests in campaigns to enact reforms and help elect leaders that have the incentives to solve our country's problems
- Attempting to be the glue to pull together the 130 or so disparate organizations "working to foster a more representative, functional and accountable government"
- Raises funds and the staff supports different initiatives
- Virginia 2019 – got behind independent minded candidates who would put people ahead of party
- State of Democracy Report Click Here
- Get Involved: Donate money, join mailing list

Business for America

- Is doing some pre-election support to secure voting
- Post Election support
  - Transparency in policymaking
  - Results driven and collaborative
- More efficient Government
  - Modern technology
  - Open Data
  - Continuous improvements is service delivery
- Pennsylvania is the pilot State

No Labels (post election)

- Washington based group focused on getting congress to work together
- Problem Solver Caucus
  - Equal number of Repub and Dem US House Reps
  - Champion policy and rule changes that have bi-partisan support
- Ultimate Guide to the 2020 Election
- 6 Bold Ideas – Ideas to focus on after Campaign Finance reform and Gerrymandering

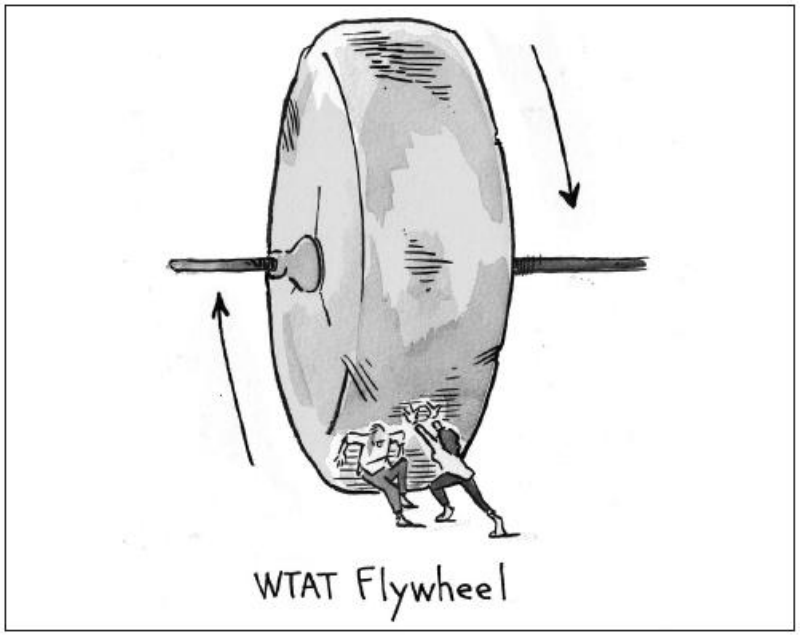
Consuming Government

Flywheel

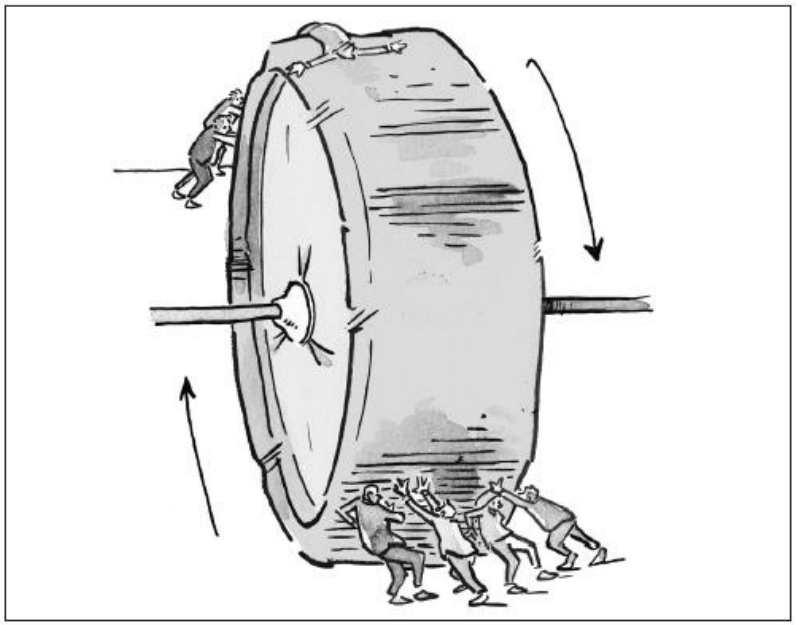
Common Denominator Government

Flywheel Way Things Are Today

Individuals feel powerless

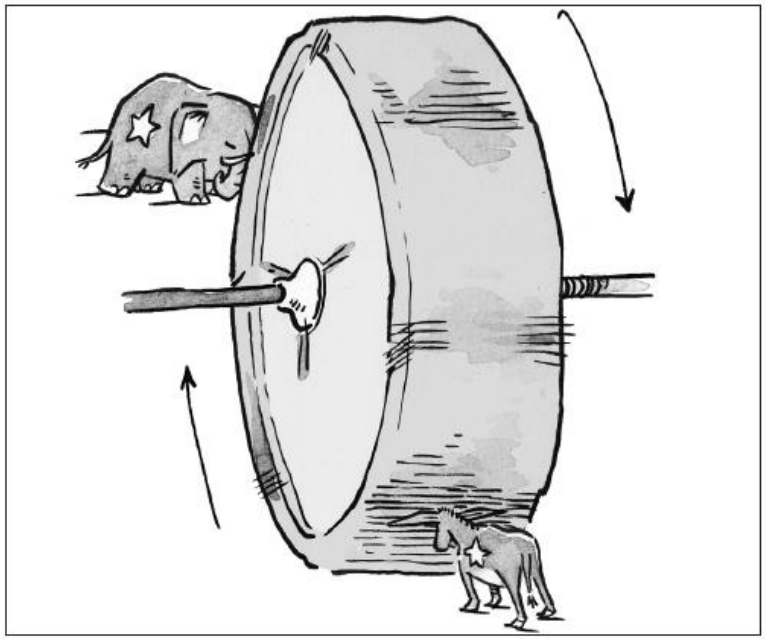


Everyone doing a little can make difference

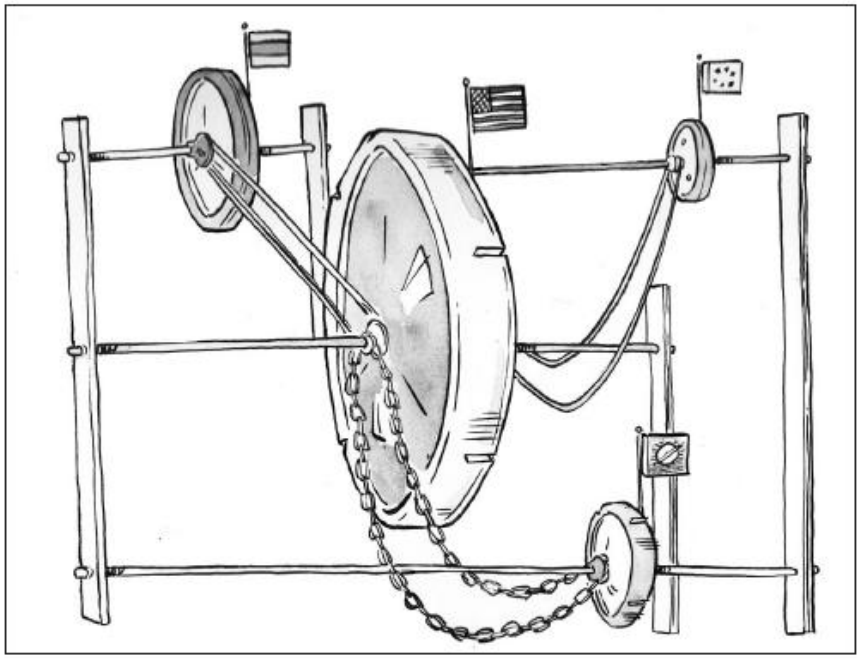


Economic Flywheel

100% of either party approach will not work.

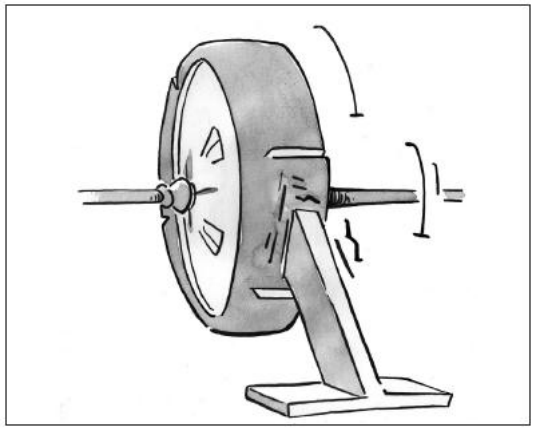


Connections to other economies are much more rigid.

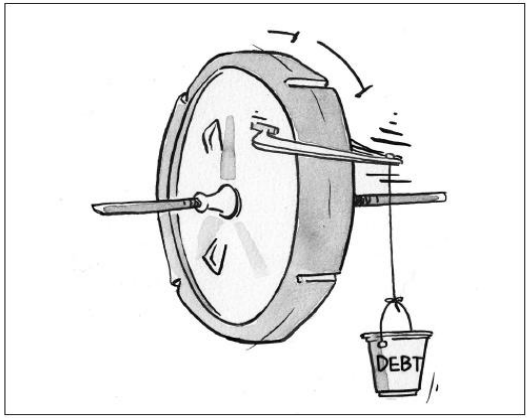


Economic Flywheel

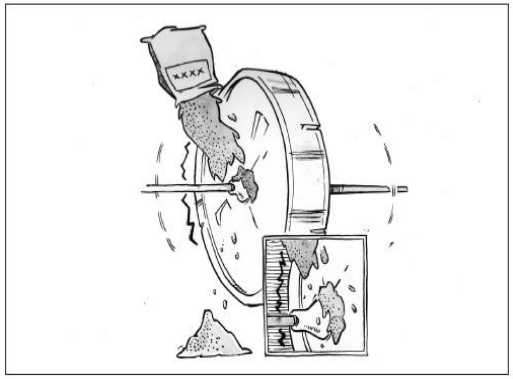
BRAKES



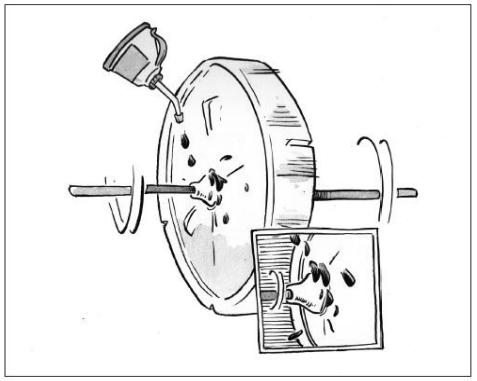
WEIGHTS



SAND



GREASE



Common Denominator Government

- Start with local government we all agree we need
- How do we measure value?
- How do we know if we are getting better value, year over year?
- Are others getting more value at less cost?
- Benefits
  - We learn to work together
  - Listen, talk, Listen
  - With these skills we can move to more complex topics

Rye Civic League

Rye Civic League

- Citizen's Handbook
- Monthly Civic News e-mail
- Budget Analysis
- Other

RCL Monthly Civic News

- How do residents track and monitor what is happening at all of the town meetings?
- Presents key points from meetings with links to video, meeting minutes and other documents
- Goes to over 1,200 people, where 1,600 vote
  - About ½ open the e-mails and about ½ of those clicking on links (average over 2 clicks per person)
- Evolves based on what RCL learns. Now has the top 10 from the month.

RCL Town Election Support

- Town and School Budget Analysis
  - Multiple years of data in a spread sheet to show long term trends
  - Deliver a presentation about what is happening and impact
  - Explains the tax process, puts costs in context
- Warrant Articles
  - Help residents with petitioned warrant articles
  - Present the background and additional information on articles
  - Summary table of what would drive a pro or con vote
- Candidates night
- Serving: List open (alternates) positions and hold information sessions where board, committee, commission members talk about the effort required to serve

RCL Citizen's Handbook & More

- What is the local Government and how does it work
- New residents and students need to know
- Departments, reporting structure and how the local government is managed
- Annual Meeting presentation
  - Educational topic to get people to the annual meeting

Listening Circles

What are the top challenges locally for this community to work on

What are the top national challenges you would like to see your community working on?

Listening Circles

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- 10 Minutes to brainstorm and List them out

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Listening Circles

- 10 Minutes
- Get your group to list the top three

Taking Action

- What can this community do moving forward
- How should you get organized
- Who can do what and by when?