



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

February 4, 2017

For more information contact Jane Millar at 231.487.1771

## Beaver Island Workshops

On Thursday, January 26, Executive Director of Northern Community Mediation (NCM) flew over to Beaver Island to facilitate two workshops entitled “Seeing Eye to Eye Without Going Head to Head.” The first workshop was held in the afternoon at the Beaver Island Community School. Approximately 40 students and teachers participated. In the late afternoon, the second workshop took place at the Community Center, where roughly 20 residents attended.

The purpose of the workshops was to help people understand that conflict is not necessarily a bad thing. It is how people handle conflict that makes it positive or negative. By incorporating group discussions and exercises with humor, Millar was able to make the point that there are basically five approaches to handling conflict: competition, accommodation, withdrawal, compromise and collaboration. The effectiveness of each approach is totally dependent upon the given circumstances. The example that Millar used was the Super Bowl. Neither Tom Brady nor Matt Ryan would approach that game other than with a competitive spirit. In no way would any of the other four approaches to conflict be appropriate.

Pam Grassmick made the initial contact with Millar to arrange for the workshops. Ann Partridge contributed her creative talent to produce an inviting flyer. Millar summarized the experience. “I feel it was worthwhile for everyone involved. I for one had a wonderful time, but then it is always fun to go to Beaver Island.”

Northern Community Mediation is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative means of resolving conflict. Trained mediators, who meet with the parties involved in a dispute, facilitate so that the individuals themselves can resolve the conflict

Anyone interested in learning more about Northern Community Mediation should contact Dr. Jane Millar at 231.487.1771.

Pictured from left to right in the back are Pam Grassmick, Sharon Misiak, Ann Partridge, and Cindy Ricksger. In the back on the right is Pam Moxhan. In the forefront from left to right are Kitty McNamara, Kathy Tidmore and Vicky Smith.

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