

nager firing; residents mobilizing

to change his opinion.

O'Neill said much the same thing, stating Tuesday that petitions would not convince him to change his vote.

Mayor William H. McCabe agreed with Pettit, O'Neill and Habbal. "My decision has been made and I stand by it," he said. "That doesn't mean I won't be listening to what goes on."

A petition may not sway votes but one resident is planning on getting plenty of mileage out of it. Norman Newfield said yesterday he plans to send a copy of the signatures, along with newspaper

clippings and a letter of warning, to anyone who applies for the permanent town manager's position.

However, the firing of Dove and the outcry that has followed has prompted Community Lawyer Charlene LaVoie to start a group called the Citizens' Coalition for Open Government. The community lawyer is hired under the Nader Shafeek Trust to represent the interests of residents.

LaVoie hopes the organization will give citizens a voice in breaking down some of the barriers

that have become evident since the firing of Dove.

"The foundation of the group is in response to what we saw happening on Monday and the speculation that the whole affair was handled less than above-board," she said.

On Sunday the group will have its first meeting at 2:30 at The Gilbert School. And on Monday at 7 p.m., CCOG will sponsor a rebroadcast of the selectmen's meeting at which Dove was fired on Mad River Television, Channel 13, the local cable access channel.