

Great Barrington Master Plan Committee (MPC)

Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2013
Great Barrington Fire Station

Members present: Barbara Bailly, Andrew Blechman, Ethan Culleton, Michele Gilligan, Jonathan Hankin, Bill Meier, Vivian Orłowski, Deborah Phillips, David Rutstein (alternate not voting), and Michael Wise. Also present was Chris Rembold, Town Planner.

Members absent: Charles Bouteiller, Ryan Caruso, Richard Dohoney, Shep Evans, Suzanne Fowle, Paul Ivory David Shanahan.

Co-Chairperson Michael Wise began the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Minutes of March 28, 2013

After one typo was corrected the minutes were approved without objection.

Schedule and Process

Blechman asked about the timeline for completing the plan. Rembold said he hoped to complete it by late May. He said it would not be ready for Town Meeting, but that a public forum and a joint meeting of the Planning Board and Selectboard would approve the plan. Blechman expressed concern that the public and boards would have too much to read and digest. Rembold suggested additional time for public review. The committee agreed more review should be conducted in lieu of a Town Meeting vote, giving approving boards more comfort with the final document. Phillips said all Committee members must read the final plan and be very familiar with it.

Wise suggested the public forum occur in late June or July. Hankin said is people will not come because they do not want to read the full document. Phillips said we need to hear from people who have read it and have suggestions. Wise suggested a virtual forum where people can read and comment on only the topics they are interested in.

Rembold said we should do as much outreach as possible to ensure people are aware of the plan and its major recommendations including press releases and media. Gilligan suggested the approval meeting occur in September rather than the summer.

Draft Implementation chapter

Rembold asked for comments about the Implementation table. Members of the committee discussed the layout of the table. Hankin thought the middle columns about key issues were unnecessary. Blechman suggested color coding or symbols to help the reader. Phillips suggested moving the key issues columns to the right or left, and leaving the most prominent areas for key information like strategy, lead, and timing.

Gilligan said responsibility column should have both the likely Boards that are involved and the paid town staff that will actually do the work. Other members suggested it also include supporting actors in parenthesis.

The Committee worked through the draft and identified strategies that overlapped, could be combined or reworded.

Other Issues and Concerns

None

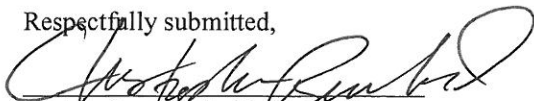
Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Wise adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Materials distributed or presented at this meeting:

- Draft Minutes of March 28, 2013
- Draft Implementation chapter

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Rembold, Town Planner