

Moultonborough Planning Board
P.O. Box 548
Moultonborough, NH 03254
(603) 476-2347
Minutes

December 17, 2008
Public Hearing - 5:00 P.M.
Moultonborough Town Offices

Present:	Members:	Judy Ryerson, Natt King, Ed Charest (Selectmen's Representative)
	Alternates:	Peter Jensen, Jane Fairchild
Excused:	Members:	Keith Nelson, Eric Taussig, Peter Wright, Jim Bakas
	Alternates:	Joanne Coppinger James Gray (Selectmen's Alternate)

Ms. Ryerson welcomed the board and public to the Public Hearing for the Master Plan update. Ms. Ryerson noted that the board held a public hearing on December 10th, and that this was the second hearing. At the meeting on December 10, 2008 the board had gone through most of the changes and was satisfied as most of the changes were minor. However, there was a substantial change to Chapter VII which came in late, and they had made modifications to the matrix.

The board was provided with three copies of the plan from MRI which included the changes. Once the board approves the Master Plan, MRI will print a final version of the plan that will be distributed to the public. There will not be copies available for everyone in Town, but there will be copies available to view. The flipbook will not be completed until all changes have been made and incorporated into the final product.

Ms. Ryerson stated that when this project was first started and everyone was looking for a vision of the town, people stated they wanted to keep the rural character, beauty, and natural resources. Through many, many meetings the committee members now have much better idea what it is specifically that it would like to enhance in Moultonborough. One of the things that came out very, very strongly in this Master Plan, and was different from the previous master plans, was that Moultonborough wants to create a town center. A lot of the work and recommendations are saying "What can we do to enhance the village and protect the outlying parts of the town to keep our open spaces, to allow wild life to roam freely, all of the things that are part of that "protect the world" character and scenic beauty of Moultonborough.

The Master Plan is organized in a way that you can read essentially, all recommendations very quickly in Chapter II, the Executive Summary. If someone would then like to know how a committee arrived at a specific recommendation or an action item, you can go to that particular chapter and go through the rationale and the supporting data unearthed. The plan is designed such that it is not going to be a weighty document that gets put on a shelf, collects dust and is never seen again. The board feels that there are many good things in the plan and the board is going to work hard at implementing the changes.

Lastly, after the plan is adopted, the board is going to try to keep the effort going, perhaps appoint an implementation committee to keep those and new people involved.

Mr. King stated it was important to emphasize how the survey was used to guide the update of the plan. The survey was a critical part of the decision making process.

Mr. Charest noted the number of individuals involved in the committees and sub committees went through all of the information and put it together to come up with something cohesive, and feels they have done a wonderful job.

Ms. Ryerson thanked all, and particularly the steering committee, for their hard work and effort in their part of completing the update of the master plan.

Al Hume asked if the public could hear what the changes were in Chapter VII. Ms. Ryerson noted the changes were submitted last week and were available to view in the Land Use Office, noting that nothing has changed since last week, with the exception of one item in the matrix. Mr. Jensen stated substantially what happened with Chapter VII was much of the detailed information was moved into the appendices to shrink down the volume of the chapter to something that is manageable for someone who would like to read the chapter and not be overloaded.

Ms. Fairchild commented on the recreational committee chapter. Ms. Fairchild did not know whether the RSPT was included as an appendix in the version presented this evening. Ms. Ryerson stated that in last week's discussion, it was noted that a lot of the material that was to be in the appendix was not yet included, but if it was referenced in the master plan itself, that it will be included. Ms. Fairchild stated there were two reports to be included. Ms. Ryerson noted that Barbara Rando had requested of the steering committee, that a change be made to include the RSPT, Senior Needs and Resource Recovery. All three of these reports would be in the appendix. Ms. Fairchild commented that she hopes in going forward with this plan they could see some reconciliation of the different groups and identify needs.

Jean Beadle noted she was on the Chapter VII committee and the last minute changes were suppose to have been in a month ago, but due to the passing of Burt Watson, understandably the ball got dropped. All that is happening now is what was supposed to have done a month ago, is finally in the report.

Ms. Ryerson noted that there was a request to move the section on the Lions Club, not remove it, but move it to a different section, so that it wouldn't be directly under recreation departments, since that was not necessarily true. It is a town facility, not a recreation facility. Those are the only significant changes that have been done, and those were to have been done a month ago. Ms. Beadle noted what she thinks the big issue of contention is the community center. Speaking from her perspective they are not opposed to a community center, but question the form that it needs to take.

Cristina Ashjian noted she was seated with Ms. Rando at last week's meeting when this first came up, and the intent, as she understood it from her, was to have the three studies as appendices, so as not to forefront one over the other as it had in the prior iteration. The three studies are in the back for reference material and further committee work can evaluate as necessary.

Hollis Austin questioned if attribution was included for those involved in developing each of the appendices, so that he may know who created them and could discuss the issues presented with them directly. The board noted that everyone's names are include who were on the committees, but there are not any names listed individually as to who created the material. Ms. Ryerson said she felt there was appropriate attribution for each document, but that she would check on that with MRI.

Mr. Austin noted when viewing the master plan on the website, that appendices F & G were not included, but were referenced, and then there is an I, but no mention of H, and would like to know what that covered. Ms. Ashjian noted what is on the website has not been updated since the end of October, so what he was looking at proceeds a copy that is currently being examined. Ms. Ashjian believes all of the appendices line up and are referenced correctly.

Mr. Austin questioned, since he had raised the concern about the adequate notices for the previous meeting that was held on December 10th, and had suggested some possible changes to them, if he could get a brief update as to how the meeting this evening was announced and where. Ms. Ryerson stated by statute this was a hearing, and is governed by the RSA's. The public hearing was noticed in the Meredith News, which is the paper of general circulation that we use, it was posted in three places in the Town Hall, Post Office, Library, and on the website. Ms. Whitney noted after the meeting on the 10th, there was an additional notice placed in Town Hall, the Post Office and the Library that had included bold language in the header that stated MASTER PLAN PUBLIC HEARING as suggested by Mr. Austin.

Ms. Ryerson seated Jane Fairchild in place of Jim Bakas, and Peter Jensen in place of Eric Taussig.

Ms. Ryerson took a moment for any further questions and or input from the board or public. There were none at this time. Ms. Ryerson called for a vote of the board for the approval of the master plan and to accept it.

Motion: Mr. King moved that the Planning Board accept the Master Plan update of December 5, 2008.
Mr. Charest Seconded.

Ms. Fairchild asked that the motion be amended to include accept and adopt.

Motion: Mr. King moved that the Planning Board accept and adopt the Master Plan update of December 5, 2008.
Mr. Charest Seconded.
Motion Carried – Unanimously.

Mr. King commented that it was his understanding that the board does not need to wait for another seven/eight years to makes changes. As a board, they can modify the plan when they find it necessary to address a specific issue.

Mr. Hume stated that as described, the Master Plan is basically the bible, and if there are any changes how would this be posted. Ms. Ryerson stated that changes can be made at the planning board level through regulations and the Town level through ordinances, but to change the Master Plan would require a formal adoption of the changes through a properly notice public hearing.

Ms. Ryerson closed the public hearing at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie L. Whitney
Land Use Coordinator

These Minutes have not been formally approved by the Moultonborough Planning Board. Please contact the secretary after the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Moultonborough Planning Board to be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, to learn if any corrections, additions or deletions were made.