STURBRIDGE PLANNING BOARD MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2013

Ms. Gibson-Quigley called the regular meeting of the Planning Board to order at 6:30 PM. On a roll call by Ms. Dumas the following members were present:

Present: Charlie Blanchard

Russell Chamberland

James Cunniff Penny Dumas Heather Hart Susan Waters

Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Chair

Also Present: Jean M. Bubon, Town Planner

Diane Trapasso, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Gibson-Quigley opened the meeting and read the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Made by Mr.Chamberland to accept the amended minutes of January 3, 2013

2nd: Mr. Blanchard

Discussion: None **Vote:** 7 - 0

Motion: Made by Mr. Cunniff to accept the amended minutes of January 8, 2013

2nd: Mr. Blanchard

Discussion: None

Vote: 6 - 0 - 1 (Mr. Chamberland)

Motion: Made by Ms. Waters to accept the amended minutes of January 15, 2013

2nd: Ms. Hart Discussion: None Vote: 7 - 0

<u>COMMERCIAL TOURIST DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN - KICK-OFF WITH PARE CORPORATION</u>

Present from Pare Corporation were the following:

Pare Corporation – John Shevlin – Project Manager McCabe Enterprises – Kathleen McCabe Shadley Associates, PC – Pamela Shadley

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Paul Lukez Architectural – Chris Zarek

Mr. Shevlin thanked the Board for hiring them for this project and said that they are excited to get started.

Ms. McCabe asked the Board what their individual comments and goals for this project.

The Board had the following goals:

- Slow down traffic in order to make awareness of the businesses
- Public safety for the residents that live in this area work with DPW and Police and Fire – school
- Street trees in the median or greenery
- Round-abouts
- Architectural improvements to the businesses
- Crosswalks and how they can be safe
- Ability to walk the whole corridor
- Access to and awareness of the River
- Encourage shared parking to encourage more walking
- Bicycle lanes
- Making the gateways at both ends of the corridor more pleasing and in keeping with the character of the Town
- Sign clutter
- Lighting
- Make Cedar Lake more visible
- Alternatives for metal quardrails
- Does the corridor have to be a divided highway
- How can underground utilities happen

Mr. Shevlin stated that he will be setting up meetings with MassDOT to discuss improvements to this corridor.

Ms. Bubon stated that she would like the corridor to be made more attractive so more people will stay and shop. How to make the corridor safe and pedestrian friendly?

Ms. Bubon stated that Mr. Patel, owner of the property at the corner of New Boston Road and Route 20 is working with the Town regarding his plans to develop the property and discussing an overlay district for that property.

Ms. Bubon and the Board are excited to get started with this project.

The consultants presented a draft schedule of events and would like to start their first working meeting in February. They would like to hold a public kick-off meeting and see what the public envisions seeing in this corridor.

TOWN PLANNER UPDATE

None

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Bubon stated that a letter was sent to Mr. Keenan, of Quinn Engineering, Project Manager for 99 Shepard Road – Site Plan Approval Application – to see if they still want to proceed with the application.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is February 12, 2013 at Center Office Building

On a motion made by Mr. Cunniff and seconded by Ms. Waters, and voted 7 - 0, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.