

**Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC)
& Focus Group Meeting**

Draft Minutes of March 2, 2010

Ms. Gibson-Quigley called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following members of the Steering Committee were present:

Members Present: Patrick Babcock, Charles Blanchard, Alan Curboy, Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Chair, Steve Dalberth, Penny Dumas, Heather Hart, Heather Hendrick, Chris Rovezzi, Bruce Smith, Maryann Thorpe and Arnold Wilson.

Members Absent: Matt Rousseau

Staff: Jean M. Bubon, Town Planner, Diane Trapasso, Administrative Assistant

Consultant: Ralph Willmer, VHB

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Made by Mr. Blanchard to approve the minutes of February 9, 2010.
2nd: Ms. Thorpe
Discussion: None
Vote: 10 – 0 – 2

DRAFT SURVEY

Ms. Gibson-Quigley stated that a copy of the draft survey had been provided to everyone for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Willmer stated that the survey is still too long, it needs to get down to three pages.

The Committee spent a great deal of time discussing and reviewing the questions contained in the draft survey. A summary of the actions taken by the Committee follows:

Question 1.

The final list of Town Services would be changed as follows:

- a. Public Works (Town road maintenance)
- b. Police Services
- c. Fire Protection/Rescue Services
- d. Ambulance/Paramedic Services
- e. Town Library
- f. Senior Citizen Services
- g. Town Parks and Recreation Dept.
- h. Recycling Center

Question 2.

Merge: Scenic vistas & views with Preserve rural character of Town
4-Wheeling & Snowmobiling

Question 3.

Change the first sentence to say “How many times per year do you typically use the following publicly accessible properties in Sturbridge”.

Question 5.

Add: Trails for cross country skiing, biking, snowshoeing, hiking, walking, running, horseback riding

Remove: all other lines that reference those trails

Combine: Snowmobile, 4-Wheeling, ATV trails

Categories: Strongly Favor, Favor, Neutral, Opposed, Strongly Opposed

Question 6.

Delete the following:

- c. Outdoor Recreation/Trails
- f. Organic Food Store

Merge:

Assisted living care facility
Shopping Mall/Big Box Retail with Outlet shopping

Change:

Historic/Cultural Attractions to Historic/Cultural Museums
Lodging to Service Industry (i.e. lodging, restaurant)
Health Spa to Health Spa Resort
Add Live Theater to Movie Theater

Shorten j: take out hotel & recreation & property – add building where property was

Categories: Strongly Favor, Favor, Neutral, Opposed, Strongly Opposed

Question 7

Add to the question – the following are allowed uses
Change l. to Movie Theater, Live Theater, Indoor Musical Center
Add outlet shopping to m
Add theme park to n.
Add Health Spa Resort

Categories: Strongly Favor, Favor, Neutral, Opposed, Strongly Opposed

Motion: Made by Mr. Blanchard to prioritize questions numbers 5, 6, & 7 with ranking options and remove traffic/tax/location.
2nd: Mr. Rovezzi
Discussion:
Vote: 11- 1 (Ms. Dumas)

Question 8 categories will be combined with question 6 and will be deleted.

Question 9

Add the following:
Route 15 & River Road
Route 49 & Walker Pond Road
Mashapaug Road & Breakneck Road
Any other Area?

Question 10 – prioritize as questions 5, 6 & 7

Change bikeways to dedicated bike routes
Change public transit to regional bus service
Trolley service add seasonal in town

Question 11

Map format move the line between Area A & C north of Main Street

Questions 13, 15, 18, 19

Delete

Question 20

Change Rural town character to Historic character

Question 25

Change website to - How often do you attend Town Meeting?

On all of the above, insert check blocks instead of numbering system.

NEXT STEPS

- ❖ The survey questions will be finalized as amended this evening and will be provided to Ms. Bubon to distribute to the Survey Focus Group for final review and then mailed to residents.
- ❖ Focus Groups Issue Papers will be reviewed by the Consultants and reviewed at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

April 6, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center

On a motion made by Mr. Blanchard, seconded by Mr. Dalberth and voted 12-0 the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.