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# TOWN OF WAYLAND

41 COCHITUATE ROAD  
WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS 01778

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

LEA T. ANDERSON  
MARY M. ANTES  
LOUIS M. JURIST  
CHERRY C. KARLSON  
JOSEPH F. NOLAN

**Board of Selectmen Listening Session Subcommittee**  
**Listening Session #7**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Green Way Condominiums**  
**6 Green Way, Wayland**

**Attendance:** Subcommittee members Lea T. Anderson and Mary M. Antes

**Others in attendance:** Jean Milburn (facilitator), Mel Norris, Jean Pratt

**Welcome and introductions** Facilitator, Jean Milburn, welcomed two members of the community to the seventh of eight Listening Sessions at 7:35 p.m. at the Green Way condominiums at 6 Green Way in Wayland. J. Milburn gave a brief statement of her background and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. She explained that Selectmen Lea Anderson and Mary Antes were there to listen and take notes for a summary report. She assured the attendees that no statements would be attributed to individuals in the report. J. Milburn reviewed the ground rules.

**Questions and discussion** J. Milburn led the group through a series of questions:

- What town services do you use most often and how well do they serve your needs? How could they be improved?
- What are three things in Wayland Town Government that are working well and you don't want to see changed? What three things would you like to see changed?
- Do you participate in town activities and town-sponsored events? Why or why not?
- What would encourage you to take advantage of these activities and services?
- Many feel that Wayland taxes are high. What services might you be willing to forego in order to add new or additional services?
- What is the best way for the town to provide you with information on a regular basis?
- Do you have skills that you would be willing to share with the town on a short-term, one-shot, or regular basis? What is keeping you from joining a board or committee?
- Do you have concerns or comments that have not already been mentioned?

**Feedback** Notes on comments received are attached.

**Approval of minutes** M. Antes moved, seconded by L. Anderson to approve the revised minutes to Listening Session #1 on Jan. 26, 2017, and Listening Session #2 on Jan. 28, 2017. YEA: L. Anderson, M. Antes. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Adopted 2-0. M. Antes moved, seconded by L. Anderson to approve the minutes to Listening Session #3 on Jan. 30, Listening Session #4 on Jan. 31, Listening Session #5 on Feb. 5, and Listening Session #6 on Feb. 9. YEA: L. Anderson, M. Antes. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Adopted 2-0.

**Adjourn** The listening session ended at 8:50 p.m.

**Items Distributed for Information and Use by the Listening Session attendees at Listening Session #7 on Feb. 16, 2017**

1. Draft revised minutes to Listening Session #1 on Jan. 26, 2017, and Listening Session #2 on Jan. 28, 2017.
2. Draft minutes to Listening Session #3 on Jan. 30, 2017, Listening Session #4 on Jan. 31, 2017, Listening Session #5 on Feb. 5, 2017, Listening Session #6 on Feb. 9, 2017.

**Items Included as Part of Agenda Packet for Discussion During the January 30, 2017 Listening Session**

There were none.

Respectfully submitted: Lea T. Anderson

**LISTENING SESSION #7 NOTES**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

**Green Way Condominium**

Facilitator: Jean Milburn

Selectmen: Mary Antes, Lea Anderson

2 attendees: one has lived in Wayland for 65 years, one moved here a few years ago

**Question: What town services do you use and how well do they serve your needs? What works well?**

**Police**

- Serve the town well, helped with a specific situation
- Come to the senior center to pick up prescription drugs

**Recreation**

- Beach is the jewel in the crown of Wayland; kids who work there are very nice; dogs can sometimes be a problem; beach is well kept

**Senior Center**

- Favorite place is senior center
- Very good
- Well run, good staff
- Need better quarters

**Library**

- Use the library a lot
- We need a new library; what is the status? Will it be built near the Middle School?

**Town Clerk**

- Good

**Health Department**

- Blood pressure taken by town nurse – good

Unhappy that Whole Foods is moving. Heard that Fresh Market fell through. (Jean updated them on Fresh Market still planning on opening in Wayland)

Are there things you would participate in if you could get a ride? (not a problem for either)

**Question: What is not working in Wayland?**

**General statement that town has gone down in the last ten years**

**DPW**

- Condo pays commercial rate for water because there is only one meter; want to be treated as a homeowner

### **Building Department**

- Had to pay \$100k to fix building because there was no insulation; why didn't Building Dept. deal with this when the building was built?

### **ZBA**

- Worked on ZBA for 9 years, Charter Commission, Planning Board – 20 years as a volunteer
- When the BoS makes appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals, do you question the applicant's personal agenda on wanting to serve on the ZBA?; I have read decisions and seen the results recently where a board one year rules one way and the next board rules just the opposite on the same issue; what do you try to learn about an applicant's corporate or development or real estate interests? Too development oriented

### **Town Administrator/ Town Center/ WWTP**

- How are the Selectmen informed about the actions of their administrator? How much freedom to act on his/her own do you give?
- The Town Center Development was negotiated and planned by the former TA with little or no input from the elected Planning Board or Board of Health
- Why have there been so many problems with the Waste Water Treatment Plant?
- Who is paying sewage fee in Town Center? Users pay an extraordinarily high fee; think that businesses are not paying fair share; how is Waste Water operated?
- Why don't we have any park space in Town Center?
- Are people in affordable housing in Town Center former employees? How does that work?

### **Police**

- Is the Chief answerable to the Board of Selectmen in any way? Over-reaction to School Superintendent's complaint about former athletic director "whistle blower"
- Are police in Wayland part of the Restorative Justice program that the police departments in Concord and Lexington are participating in?
- We in Wayland are currently very aware and concerned about hate crimes against mosques and Jewish temples; how are black men likely to be subject to suspicion just because they are black?

### **150 Main St.**

- What action has the BoS taken in regard to the action of the ZBA in refusing to hear the petition of neighbors in the overkill development of the CVS site in Cochituate? Where is our sense of community?
- Cochituate gets a bad slam; does not get a fair deal
- Original plan to have a shopping center; now only CVS; would have been better to have a mall with shops; no nice men's clothing shop in Wayland

### **Planning/Master Plan**

- Is the town really in tune with the Master Plan that we adopted a few years ago when we favored retaining our "rural" atmosphere? Why doesn't that include over-development and excessive business traffic on sites near schools and recreational fields

**Question: what would you give up to lower taxes?**

- Don't know where you could eliminate; good school system; roads; lack of interest of people in town to run for office
- Love conservation; highway department; fire department (responsive, kind)
- Don't resent paying taxes; willing to pay for services; if I didn't have money I would cut schools – overloaded administratively; town pays some of school costs – that's not right
- Pays taxes on office, equipment as well as home (vacancies in office building)

**Question: how do you learn about things that go on in Town Government?**

- I get most of my news from Town Crier, internet, town hall, people talk
- Crier; people who work for me fill me in; Crier should be circulated more
- We need a way to get people interested in town government; concerned about apathy of residents
- Is there any notification of openings? We need to get more people to run
- Need a selectmen's column – large print!
- Communication is very difficult; so much competition for people's time; fraternal organizations are dying
- Lots of services people don't know anything about, such as rides to appointments
- Churches do well within their own congregations

**Other things?**

- Restorative justice program in Concord and Lincoln
- Are there a lot of sex offenders in town?
- Veteran's Agent is very good
- Do we need an oral history?

**Thank you!**