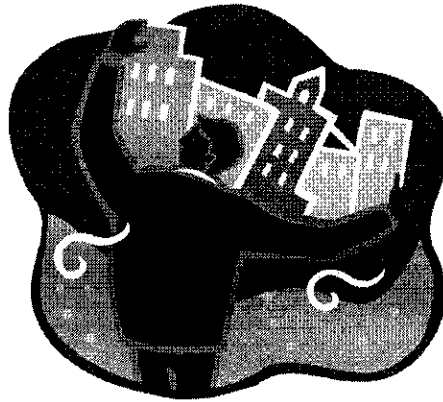




TOWN-WIDE PLANNING COMMITTEE

AGENDA May 3, 2011 7:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and roll call
2. Approval of minutes – 4-5-11
3. Discussion on any updates on the Master Plan

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>"Good Shepherd"</u>
1	Executive Summary	
2	Factor Influencing the Growth of West Boylston	Leon Gaumond
3	Land Use & Zoning	Karen Pare
4	Population & Housing	Sue Meola
5	Economic Development	Michael Fishbein
6	Transportation Network	Lawrence Salate
7	Open Space & Recreation	Diana Englebart
8	Cultural & Historic Resources	Joanne Dunne
9	Municipal Facilities & Services	Leon Gaumond
10	Financial Strategies	Leon Gaumond

4. Review of implementation plan (section Open Space)
5. Review of Town Meeting Articles
6. Other business
7. Set next meeting and adjournment

Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2011
West Boylston
TOWN WIDE PLANNING COMMITTEE

TWPC members present: Mr. Gaumond, Mr. Simmarano, Ms. Meola, Ms. Engelbart, Mr. Owanisian

TWPC members absent: Ms. Harris, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Engelbart, Mr. Fishbein, Ms. Pare, Ms. Dunne and Dr. Tashjian

The TWPC meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Leon Gaumond, at 7:09 pm.

Motion by Ms. Meola to approve the minutes of 3-1-2011 and to amend the minutes to reflect the fact that the Master Plan is expected to be ready for approval at the Fall 2012 Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Simmarano. All in favor.

The TWPC asked the Town Administrator to send a nice card to Michelle Harris for her years of service to TWPC.

Master Plan Update: Chapter 7: Open Space: Ms. Engelbart acknowledged Vinny Vignaly's support and assistance in preparing the update to this section. The Open Space Implementation Committee also has developed an 'Action List.' There was a question from Mr. Owanisian on sidewalks. Mr. Gaumond explained that the Sidewalk Master Plan is trying to be implemented and there is a major project on Crescent Street proposed for 2011. Mr. Gaumond suggested that the TWPC members review the draft chapter and we will carry it over to the May meeting.

Review of the implementation guide: The TWPC reviewed the changes to the Implementation section on Economic Development and Housing made by Mr. Gaumond. Motion by Ms. Meola to approve the changes. Seconded by Ms. Engelbart. All in favor.

Mr. Owanisian questioned the time frame aspect of the implementation strategy. Mr. Gaumond responded that this definitely should be addressed in the 2017 rewrite of the Master Plan.

Next meeting will be held on May 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Ms. Meola to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Engelbart. Meeting concluded at 8:00p.m.

Leon A. Gaumond Jr., Town Administrator

<i>Open Space and Recreation</i>				
Provide input into decisions on future uses of DCR and county-owned land to ensure they remain open and accessible for recreational use.	Board of Selectmen/Open Space Committee/Parks Commission	On-Going		
Establish a long-range plan to ensure the preservation of lands under Chapters 61, 61A, and 61B, and support the agricultural use of DCR land.	Open Space Committee/ Board of Assessors	Medium-Term		Done – vote 9-4-07
Encourage greenway connections throughout the town, such as wildlife corridors and walking trails.	Open Space Committee/ West Boylston Land Trust	On-Going		
Extend the Rail Trail along the Quinapoxet River and up to Sterling, possibly along Pleasant Street.	Wachusett Greenways/ Open Space Committee	Short-Term		
Amend the Zoning Bylaws to include provisions for Open Space development (Cluster Zoning).	Planning Board	Short-Term		
Improve enforcement of bylaws designed to protect the environment.	Town Administrator	Short-Term		
Acquire open land by purchase or gift, and work with landowners to preserve sensitive resources through conservation restrictions.	West Boylston Land Trust	On-Going		
Acquire easements from landowners to link open space via natural corridors for hiking and wildlife routes.	West Boylston Land Trust	On-Going		
Protect privately owned wetlands by encouraging certification of vernal pools, utilizing students and volunteers such as Scouts.	Conservation Commission/ School Department	On-Going		
Coordinate open space preservation with historical preservation efforts.	Town Administrator/Open Space Committee/Historical Commission	On-Going		
Investigate the use of state grants to preserve historic and treasured landscapes.	Open Space Committee/ Historical Commission	On-Going		
Consider adoption of the Community Preservation Act to acquire open space, protect historic resources, and create affordable housing.	Board of Selectmen/ Conservation Commission/ Housing Partnership	Medium-Term		Done – vote 9-4-07

Take action to reduce the amount of unaccounted-for-water loss and increase water conservation.	Water District	On-Going	
Expand active recreational facilities and obtain additional land for recreation.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term	
Increase opportunities for passive recreation for seniors.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term	
Review all town recreation facilities for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.	Parks Commission	Short-Term	
Prepare and implement a public education program to promote the wise use of the Town's open space and recreation facilities.	Open Space Committee/Parks Commission	On-Going	
Publicize the availability of the public composting area and expand hours of operation.	Superintendent of Streets and Parks	On-going	Improvements noted: 6-10-08
Assess interest in formation of community gardens and look for an appropriate site.	Parks Commission	Short-Term	
Construct sanitary facilities at high use public areas, e.g. Goodale Park, Woodland Park and the Rail Trail.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term	
Provide adequate buffers between parks used for active recreation and residential zones.	Parks Commission/Planning Board	Short-Term	
Provide maps showing availability and location of recreational facilities.	Parks Commission/Open Space Committee	Short-Term	
Develop and implement rules/regulations and fees for use of Park facilities.	Parks Commission	Short-Term	Done – vote 6-10-08
Develop Operation and Maintenance Plans for active recreation areas to keep facilities in good condition.	Parks Commission/DPW	Short-Term	
Seek additional recreational access on DCR land.	Parks Commission	On-Going	
Seek long-term leases for town athletic fields that are located on DCR land.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term	
Improve pedestrian facilities, especially to commercial areas,	Board of Selectmen	Long-Term	

including the installation of sidewalks along the southern part of Route 12.				
Improve walking trails for the disabled and senior citizens.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term		
Expand the availability of infant and toddler facilities at Pride Park and Woodland Park.	Parks Commission	Medium-Term		Pride Park Done vote 6-10-08
Develop historic/interpretive side trails along the Rail Trail.	Wachusett Greenways/ Open Space Committee	Medium-Term		
Retain and maintain the scenic pine grove in Goodale Park.	Parks Commission	On-Going		
Provide a safe public swimming area for residents.	Parks Commission	Long-Term		
Provide information to town officials and citizens about tax and other benefits of open space.	West Boylston Land Trust	Short-Term		
Provide training to local officials dealing with open space, recreation, and water, so that laws relating to land use are consistently enforced.	Town Administrator	Short-Term		Done -- vote 9-4-07
Improve coordination among boards whose decisions affect open space and ensure that the Planning Board gets input from other officials during the site plan review and subdivision review process.	Town Administrator	Short-Term		
Preserve the current amount of town-owned open space, especially that around the Mixter Building.	Parks Commission	On-Going		
Assess town-owned property that is unusable (i.e. steep slopes and wetlands), and invite DCR to swap such properties for flat usable areas.	Town Administrator/Parks Commission/Conservation Commission	Medium Term		
Establish a policy of notifying the Conservation Commission when land under Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B is being considered for removal.	Town Administrator/ Board of Assessors	Short-Term		Done -- vote 9-4-07
<i>Specific Recreation Projects:</i> Develop new football field. Rebuild bleachers at All Purpose Field. Acquire landfill property from Selectmen and develop plans for	Parks Commission	On-Going		

recreational use. Renovate Town Pool. Obtain additional practice fields e.g. a parcel of DCR land north of Edwards School, and athletic fields adjacent to John Augustus Hall on Beaman Street. New dugouts, safety fence on Goodale Street, and add lights at Softball Field. Construct dugouts at A and B fields. Construct additional parking areas at Goodale Park. Re-grade and extend irrigation, construct dugouts, and add lights at baseball field. Repair or re-construct tennis and basketball courts at Goodale Park. Install bathroom facilities at Goodale Park and Woodland Park. Continue to investigate additional land to acquire for parks and recreation.				A field complete: vote 6-10-08
Update the 5-Year Open Space and Recreation Plan upon its expiration to keep the Town eligible for state and federal funds.	Open Space Committee	Medium-Range		