

**Master Plan Committee
Town of Winchendon
109 Front St. 4th Fl. Conference Room
Winchendon MA 01475**

Master Plan Committee Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2014

PRESENT: Chairman Penny Maliska, Vice chairman Corey Bohan, James Halloran, Brian Dickens, Lionel Cloutier, Miranda Bishop, Doneen Durling, Tracy Murphy.

ABSENT: Jane LaPointe

MATERIALS:

Letter of interest from Diane Sevigny offering her organizational and marketing skills to the committee developing the Master Plan.

Sign up sheet for sections

Attendance sheet

CALL TO ORDER: 3:01 PM

Subcommittee focus group and hand out

Ms. Murphy said this is the continuation of the discussion that began with focus areas of the Master Plan task forces.

She said the first order of the Master Plan write up is compiling existing conditions.

She said the easiest way to begin is to break down into focus groups understanding that some things would overlap with others.

She compiled a list where members could begin gathering information.

Ms. Murphy said the focus groups do not have to be an appointed committee. She told the committee they could consult with others they know

may be interested. When information is compiled, it is brought back to the committee, which is subject to the open meeting criteria.

Ms. Murphy said if members need mapping or anything, she would be able to help. She said if assistance is needed, just call to make an appointment.

Ms. Murphy said the first time the committee presents to the town; they must have a full grasp on what is there. The conversation with the town would then be what are the needs and what are the threats. The worksheet handed out was something to help compile what is already there.

Ms. Murphy asked if there were any thoughts about what each member wanted to commit to.

Ms. Durling said it may be appropriate to break out schools from the services and have someone just focus on that since it was indicated as a major concern in the Master Plan survey.

Ms. Murphy said she agreed and the only reason why she placed it under Services is because that is the category it falls under.

Ms. Maliska said that because of her occupation, she believed she could be helpful with the housing subcommittee.

She said she was also interested in economic development because she feels Downtown Revitalization is along those lines.

Ms. Murphy said that she initially and intentionally had put them under the same section because MRPC would be doing much of the preliminary work. She said there are still issues that need the local prospective in the analysis and interpretation of all of it.

Mr. Bohan said he would like to work with Economic Development as well.

Mr. Cloutier said he would choose Natural Resources.

Ms. Murphy said she only listed 5, but asked that he please list them all.

Ms. Murphy explained SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats)

Mr. Cloutier asked if the committee could examine plans proposed before that have not been followed through.

Mr. Bohan offered to send them electronically.

Mr. Cloutier said the last two Master Plans proposed the same things over and over.

Ms. Murphy said THAT could be part of the narrative and implementation strategy. First they would need to confirm that the town still wants to achieve that particular goal.

Ms. Durling said she would volunteer under Services and Facilities.

Mr. Bohan offered to help.

Mr. Halloran said he would sign on for Implementation.

Ms. Murphy said Implementation would have much to do with the success or failure of the plan.

The board learned that Jane LaPointe was interested in services.

They agreed Ms. Durling and Ms. LaPointe could work on services together.

Mr. Bohan said he would take on Cultural.

Brian Dickens would sign on for Open Space and Recreation

Mr. Cloutier said he would help

Mr. Dickens said he felt Circulation Transportation was also important.

He said he was also interested in Natural and Cultural Resources.

The chairman reviewed

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Maliska and Bohan

HOUSING Maliska

OPEN SPACE and RECREATION Cloutier and Dickens

NATURAL and CULTURAL Cloutier, Dickens, Bohan

SERVICES and FACILITIES LaPointe and Durling

CIRCULATION and TRANSPORTATION Dickens

IMPLEMENTATION Halloran and Sevigny

PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGIES and FORUM

Facebook Page/ Winchendon Master Plan

Invite people/ like it/ recommend

Mr. Dickens advised there be postings on the town website

Ms. Murphy said that she or Ashlyn White could post things the committee wished to place on the town website.

Ms. Durling said invitations could be sent specifically to people who have a particular stake in what will be printed in the Master Plan i.e. David

Connors/housing Police Chief//Superintendent/services.

The committee spoke of connecting with MRPC for Transportation and Circulation.

Ms. Murphy said she would send out an email to all departments to tell them the Master Plan was being worked on inform them they may be contacted.

Mr. Cloutier informed the committee he has been working with Ivan Ussac of the Miller's River Watershed to extend the Blue Trail.

Ms Murphy said she applied for a class in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at UMASS to come to help write a revitalization plan for Central St. Initially Winchendon did not get picked, but UMASS called last

week to say another town that was chosen had dropped it. They wanted to know if Winchendon was still interested.

The cost is \$3500

She said UMASS has to hold a public forum in town. She wanted to combine efforts and hold a public forum together with the Master Plan Committee.

Mr. Dickens suggested that events being held in town might be a perfect place to introduce survey questions etc. He said there were concerts at the gazebo and events planned for fall that might offer ways of getting public input.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 5

Cloutier moved to approve/second by Durling

Bohan (Y) Dickens (Y) Cloutier (Y) Halloran (Y) Durling (Y) Maliska (Y)

6 - 0 APPROVED

June 23

Bohan moved to approve/second by Dickens

Bohan (Y) Dickens (Y) Cloutier (Y) Halloran (Y) Durling (Y) Maliska (Y)

6 - 0 APPROVED

Mr. Cloutier asked if the board should consider placing a number on how many times a person is absent from the meeting before being asked to step down.

He said the recommendation was 3.

The chairman asked what others thought.

The board weighed whether it might be hard to find others to serve.

They said there could be a problem maintaining a quorum.

The board agreed that someone unable to attend could still submit work.

Miranda Bishop appeared and introduced herself to the board.

Ms. Murphy said that after a discussion with the Town Clerk, it was decided that Ms. Bishop would become a voting member when she turns 18.

(October)

Until then she would be a student representative and contributing member.

Mr. Halloran asked the board to check out the Lunenburg Master Plan.

He said his concern was the committee might lose focus, and the Lunenburg plan might help with focus.

John Hume will return August 4 at 2 pm to present the GIS Analysis.

Ms. Maliska said she would still like to see a 3D map that will include information on trends.

DISCUSSION — HISTORIC PRESERVATION/MASTER PLAN

Mr. Bohan said the Historical Commission is looking to expand into enforcement, and looking to generate funds for historic preservation. He said the Master Plan Committee should have a lot of insight.

He asked if Historic Preservation should be listed in the categories.

Ms Murphy said that what was listed were just ideas of resources, and the Master Plan is the perfect venue for Historic resources and preservation.

Mr. Bohan said that communication is key so historic preservation and planning interests are met and in harmony with what everyone in town wants to see happen.

DISCUSSION — PIPELINE

Mr. Cloutier brought up the pipeline.

Mr. Bohan said he met with the Narragansett Native American Tribal Council, and they came to view a burial ground in the proposed pipeline pathway. They also visited two Native American spiritual sites. The council is very interested on surveying the area so the Bureau of Indian Affairs can nationally certify it. He said Natives are buried there by the dozens and the spiritual sites are astrologically aligned.

Durling moved to adjourn/second by Bohan

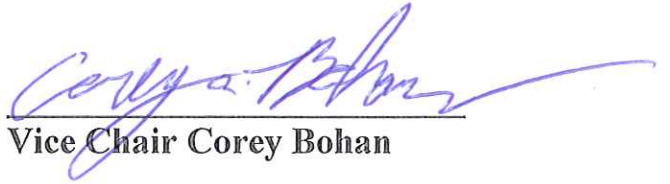
Bohan (Y) Dickens (Y) Cloutier (Y) Halloran (Y) Durling (Y) Maliska (Y)

6 - 0 APPROVED

ADJOURNED: 4:13 pm



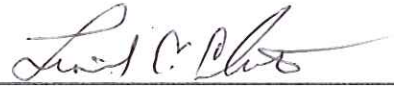
Chairman Penny Maliska



Vice Chair Corey Bohan



James Halloran



Lionel Cloutier

Brian Dickens

Jane LaPointe

Doneen Durling

Student Rep. Miranda Bishop