FYI

ACTON PLANNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting
October 20, 2009
Acton Town Hall, Faulkner Room (204)

Planning Board members Mr. Ryan Bettez (Chairman), Mr. Jeff Clymer (Vice), Mr. Roland Bourdon, Mr. Greg Niemyski, Ms. Leigh Davis-Honn and associate member Margaret Woolley Busse. Also present was Town Planner, Mr. Roland Bartl and Planning Board Secretary, Kim DelNigro. Absent were members Ray Yacouby (Clerk) and Ms. Ruth Martin.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

I. Citizens Concerns
None raised.

II. Consent Agenda
Consent Item A. Minutes of 10/06/09.
Mr. Niemyski moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; Mr. Bourdon 2nd; all in favor.

III. Reports
CPC: Mr. Bourdon reported that this year more residents seem to be in favor of having the historic Windsor Building restoration funded.
EDC: Ms. Davis-Honn reported the workgroup has moved forward with their efforts. They have created a demo and a marketing group. Ms. Davis-Honn stated it will be a good opportunity for coordinating with the inventory analysis tasks for the Comprehensive Community Plan.
Open Space Committee: Mr. Clymer reported on the committee's efforts to protect agricultural land.
MAGIC: Mr. Bettez stated the next meeting will be October 28.
DRB: Mr. Bettez reported a few 40B applications have been reviewed.
Open Neighborhood Meeting and web-site coming up in November: Mr. Bartl stated this will be a unique opportunity to participate in an experimental hands-on community planning and design workshop using "Second Life" 3-D computer simulation tools. It is a part of a Tufts University graduate degree program. The experimental site is Kelley's Corner.

IV. Review & Discussion – Expedited Permitting for Green Manufacturing
Board members discussed the advancement of these items: provisions for Green Manufacturing should tie in with the Master Plan; they need to be business friendly; need to figure out where they could be applied; time frames; whether to encourage reuse of built land and/or allow development for green uses on unbuilt land.
Board members questions and concerns with respect to the specific provisions in State law were:
- Why do we need it? Is it Practical? We could loose control and it could work against us. What is new? There is already a process in place for special permit that meets the State law time frames and procedures.

V. Discussion – Goals for Coming Year

Board members discussed furthering the Comprehensive Community Plan as a central objective. Board members to volunteer to help on Comprehensive Community Plan. Other items discussed: DRB is looking for ways to obtain perspective views of projects, from a street for instance; continue with communication with business community to understand their current issues and to see how doing business in Acton could be made easier; further plans for Kelley's Corner; a tree fund.

VI. Review: Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest Law

Board members reviewed the documents and noted the sensitivity of the subject and that caution is always necessary. Examples were discussed on how one can unduly influence a decision and get penalized by the State Ethics Commission for it.

Motion was made to close the meeting, 2nd; all in favor; meeting adjourned at about 9:30 PM.