

**From:** [Margaret Woolley Busse](#)  
**To:** [Acton 2020 Committee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Acton 2020: More "burning issue" blog posts and two committee openings!  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 3:27:53 PM

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These are from Selectwoman Pam Harting Barrat.

Margaret

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**From:** Pamela Harting-Barrat [mailto:pamela.hartingbarrat@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 12:18 PM  
**To:** Margaret Woolley Busse  
**Subject:** Re: Acton 2020: More "burning issue" blog posts and two committee openings!

Hi Margaret,

I am very embarrassed that I forgot to send you my "burning issues". I feel strongly that we need a comprehensive document showing privately owned parcels that may now be residential but might be something else in the future. Now is the time to reach out to owners who may not have a "family succession plan" and who would be willing to do some future planning with the town i. e right of first refusal. The parcels that come to mind are Brewster Conant's, Gordon Richards (I think Nick Zavroulas has already contacted him "informally") interms of the land on Maple street. I would like to be pro-active and not have another Next Generation issue to contend with.

I would love to see a Multi-generational community center where people could gather, programs could take place, cultures could mix etc. A center with a pool where seniors could participate in exercise classes would be wonderful. This might be one way of enticing seniors to stay in town.

Mixed income housing shcoud be carefully planned in areas that are walkable to stores and services as well as transportation. With our new van service, we can look to areas that haven't been explored thus far.

I visualize a vibrant "community" with small stores, a restaurant, apartments etc on the Maple Stree property. Smart growth lives on!

We could use a "fine arts" style movie theater in Acton.

I could go on, but I'll stop for now.

Again, my apologies.

I hope to see you soon!!!

:) Pam

On Mon, Feb 7, 2011 at 10:26 PM, Margaret Woolley Busse <[bussehome@comcast.net](mailto:bussehome@comcast.net)> wrote:

**Hello again to all Acton 2020 interested folks!**

We have two more "burning issues" blog posts for you!

But first, **we need two more of you!** As a committee wanted to let you all know that we have two openings on our committee right now. If you are someone you know are interested in becoming a member of our committee, please send a copy of your resume as well as a brief summary of your interest in the committee to Kim Gorman at the Acton Planning Department [kgorman@acton-ma.gov](mailto:kgorman@acton-ma.gov) 978-929-6631. We usually meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 7-9:30pm at Town Hall. We are a fast-paced committee and are especially interested in candidates who write well and

have the energy and commitment to help move our work forward. If you are interested in joining and have any questions about the committee, feel free to respond directly to me, Margaret Woolley Busse, at [mwoolley@mba2001.hbs.edu](mailto:mwoolley@mba2001.hbs.edu) or to Jim Snyder-Grant at [jimsg@newview.org](mailto:jimsg@newview.org).

Second, stay tuned for an announcement about our **March mini meetings** where you can weigh in live on some of these “burning issues” of the town. Dates are: **Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**. More coming very soon....

And now, **our next two burning issues blog posts**. We are loving getting your feedback on our blog, so keep it up! [www.acton2020.info/blog](http://www.acton2020.info/blog)

--**[Does Acton need a community center?](#)** The concept of creating a community center has come up in various forms for many years now. Weigh in here with your thoughts on the pros and cons of a community center.

--**[What, exactly, are Acton's villages?](#)** South Acton Village, West Acton Village, Kelly's Corner, East Acton Village, North Acton Village—are these areas definable to you? Are they really “villages?” What do you like or dislike about our town's villages? Tell us here!

And of course, please feel free to keep the conversation going on our other recent posts:

- **[What good are sidewalks?](#)** Sidewalks are popular, and for good reasons. The series of questions here explores what aspects of sidewalks are most important, and what are the limits to sidewalks - when are they not appropriate or too expensive. Includes links to some of the work of the sidewalk committee.
- **[How does traffic impact you, and what can be done?](#)** Every Acton master plan includes concerns about increasing traffic. The series of questions here explores what it is about traffic, and where, that impacts people the most, and what their thoughts are about various ways of dealing with it.
- **[Are Actonians here to stay?](#)** This question highlights the issues around our population demographic with regard to age/life stage, whether or not people move here primarily for the schools and then move out, and the social cohesion that results from residents staying for the “long haul.”
- **[Where are YOU in Acton's water cycle?](#)** This question ask residents how much

they really know about Acton's unique water cycle as well as the direction residents envision for its water in the future.

- [Where and how should we gather?](#) This question explores how we can improve our community gathering places and experiences.
- [Where do you and where WOULD you like to eat?](#) Tell us what restaurants you'd like to have in Acton!

Regards, and hope to hear from you soon!

**Margaret Woolley Busse**  
**Chair,**  
**Acton 2020 Committee**