



**DRAFT Acton 2020 Committee
Minutes
July 27, 2011 – 7:00 PM
Acton Town Hall, Room 204**

Attendees:

1. Margaret Woolley Busse
2. Sahana Purohit
3. Jim Snyder-Grant
4. Charlie Mercier
5. Vasilios (Bill) Marathias
6. Sandeep Verma
7. Roland Bartl
8. Jim Purdy
9. Kristin (lastname?)

I. Approve minutes from 7-13-11 (10 min) [7:10-7:15]

- Approved with amendments.

II. Review blog comments and agree on next blog entries (10 min) [7:15-7:55]

- Jim pointed out newest blog entry response to: “fixed route public transportation in action”. (combining school and town transportation). Maynard and the clock tower office park would be interested in financially support a continuous fixed shuttle between the clock tower and the south action train station.
- Margaret commented on Tara’s editorial in the Beacon. (that from the previous planning ('94 master plan) incentives were offered for smart growth, and they did not work.) Jim P. noted that the transfer of development rights “tool” has not been used yet. \$500K collected from “new growth”, but no information if that has been used to purchase any land. Margaret wanted to know if we should write a response to the beacon.
 - Jim said that he would provide a package for the meeting in Nov. that will explain how we will change things to modify how growth will occur. (how will we implement “alt3”.)
 - Margaret was pointing out that we need to explain to the town how it will modify development, and what we will do differently then what was done before?
 - Sahana pointed out that we were already proposing an economic exec to help support this.
 - Charlie pointed out that we might want to add resources after the plan is implemented to ensure that we report on how each “tool” works. (data and reporting)
 - Jim and Bill pointed out that we might want to talk to the developers in Kelly Corners to find out exactly what they need, and if we can “customize” our plan to be more effective.
 - Margaret and Jim P. pointed out that we should also do the same with the local neighbors.
 - **[Action item]** Margaret will talk to Chris Star (owner of the muffler shop) to see his availability to meet with us.
- Margaret brought up Cilia Kents’ email about blog post contents
 - (item#1) **[action item]** Jim to summarize notes on June 23rd meeting
 - (item#2) **[action item]** Sahana to discuss which village or town center to focus on

- (item#3) **[action item]** Jim to write up what our “town character” is.

III. Report on all boards and committees meeting (10 min) [7:55-8:10]

- Margaret pointed out some specific committees whose goals would overlap with ours
 - Acton affordable housing committee would be a good example
 - Design review board, has a nice display in the library, about how they want to keep up the town character with new growth.
 - Sidewalk committee might be interested in Kelly’s Corner work, and how we might want them to focus spending on that area.
 - We should ensure our data matches up with what the School committee has/is using.
 - **[action item]** Jim P. will meet with Alan Mitchhelm
- Jim pointed out that all the chairs of all the committees normally don’t meet and when it did happen it was useful.)
- Sahana requested to get the goals for each committee for our liaisons
 - **[action item]** Jim said that he would get that.

IV. Review fall meetings (30 min) [8:10-8:35]

- Meeting to go over school projections with the Ashtons?
 - How does our models match up with theirs. Jim P. said that they do match up roughly. The Ashtons go out 10 years, and ours go out 20.
 - **[action item]** Sahana and Jim will schedule a meeting (and attend) sometime in September with the Ashtons. Roland might attend this meeting as well.
 - Sahana that the projections have been way off in the past. Jim P. said that they were not too much, but that Avalon made a change that was not taken into consideration.
- Meeting schedule for September/October
 - Group agreed on adding meetings on
 - Sep 14th. (modified schedule) Chris Star and the developer guys in here.
 - Margaret suggests having a brainstorming session for how to vitalize Kelly’s corner.
 - **[action item]** Kristin or Roland will contact the land owners for td bank (Mike Ceton), and the investment company that owns the buildings of Roche Brothers and Dunkin Doughnuts
 - **[Action item]** Margaret will talk to Chris Star (owner of the muffler shop) to see his availability to meet with us.
 - Sep 21st. (newly proposed meeting) Economic focused meeting
 - Oct 5th. (newly proposed meeting)
- Follow up on contacts for affordable housing meeting
 - Roland contacted Jim Stalker, but needs to follow up
 - Margaret contacted Kathy Acerbo-Backer but needs to follow up
- Review three key questions to discuss at meetings
 - *(moved to next weeks meeting)*
- Set deadlines for contacting key committees to inform them of meetings
 - *(moved to next weeks meeting)*
- Discuss questions we may need to ask in advance of any experts that attend
 - *(moved to next weeks meeting)*

V. Assess ideas for strategies [8:35-9:55]

- **[Action item]** Jim P. will send out categories to Jim and Bill
- **[Action item]** Jim and Bill will send out comments on them by next week

- **[Action item]** Committee members should send out comments by Aug 10th.
- a. **Goal 2: Ensure Environmental Sustainability (45 min) [8:35-9:20]**
 - Jim requested from The Collaborative if they could produce some “sample strategies”
 - **[Action item]** Jim P. will produce some sample strategies.
 - He met with green advisory committee and water resource committee to help with the document.
 - Jim presented his review of goal 2
 - Will send out changes to the committee for review and edits.
 - Jim P. will send out categories to Jim and Bill
 - Jim and Bill will send out comments on them by next week
 - Committee members should send out
- b. **Goal 3: Improve Connections (45 min) [9:20-9:55]**
 - Bill reviewed Goals and questioned some of the feasibilities and what we actually were able to control vs. the state, etc. And what resources are available to support these items.
 - Bill pointed out that all of these are resource and cost heavy, and they always require walkability which is a challenge.
 - Will send out changes to the committee for review and edits.