

Draft Acton 2020 Committee Minutes

Date: June 8th, 2011, 7:00 pm

Location: Town Hall, Room 204

Attendees: Celia Kent, Jim Snyder-Grant, Sahana Purohit, Margaret Woolley Busse, Paulina Knibbe, Bill Marathias, Charles Mercier, Sandeep Verma
Planners Collaborative (Jim Purdy, Brian Barber, Bill Geizentanner?)
Planning Dept – Roland Bartl, Kristin Alexander

- Minutes approved for 5-11-2011 with minor changes
- Blog-
 - No new comments.
 - New blog from Jim about “Acton’s carbon footprint” was added along with the video “It’s a wonderful Acton”.
 - Sahana had requested some data through ‘Co-star’ about vacancies of commercial/retail/office buildings in Acton from Brian Barber(PC) to possibly write a blog about Acton’s current vacancies & to facilitate a discussion based on these figures to see what can kind of businesses Acton could attract. Brian looked into Co-star, other similar sites and spoke to some local realtors but could not come up with the percentages or figures. There is no such data available for Acton alone.
 - No new posts for next week (unless Clint would want to post one) maybe wait until the June 23rd workshop and then post new blogs.
- Publicity-
TO DO: Regarding the film “It’s a Wonderful Acton”-
 - The email Margaret sent out with the link to the video could be used by other members to publicize the film
 - Sahana to email out all schools with the link to the video
 - Margaret and Charles to try email out to Mc. Towne and Douglas (Sahana will contact Beth Petr who will facilitate the emails out to junior high, high school, Mc. Towne, Douglas as these schools are paperless)
 - Kristin will hand the DVD to Acton cable to run the video
 - Leigh will run the post video interviews a week before June 23rd workshop
 - Press- Boston Globe, Action Unlimited- Paulina;
Beacon- Margaret; Patch – Jim SG
 - Kristin will try to get the video posted on the town website.

TO DO: Margaret will send out special invitation to key committees to attend the workshop.
Two emails to go out to each group. The first one will be this week and the second to go out the week of June 12th.

TO DO: Press-

- Action Unlimited – a deadline to submit by Monday – Paulina

- Boston Globe- Paulina
- Beacon- Margaret
- Patch – Jim SG

Library- Charles contacted the library and was told that the committee can put up boards advertising the meeting at the library 24/7.

TO DO: Charles will pick up the boards from planning & will place them at the library.

TO DO: Outreach to other communities/ neighborhoods-

Refer to-

https://spreadsheets.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AgKgrxT707i5dFRBS1dDV29vaDVtTUVGRVRManZJYIE&authkey=CNGpqZQK&hl=en_US#gid=0

Taylor Road	Bill
Conant PTO	Sahana
Youth soccer and/or youth baseball	Bill
Windsor Ave	Celia
Indian Village	Charlie
Robbins Brook Assisted Living	Charlie
Lions Club	Charlie
Town Democratic Committee	Clint
Town Republican Committee	Clint
Kathy Acerbo-Bachmann	Jim
ACES	Jim
Acton Conservation Trust	Jim
Acton Stream Teams	Jim
Green Acton	Jim
New View (Half Moon Hill) Neighborhood	Jim
South Acton Village Neighborhood = Kathy Acerbo-Bachman	Jim

Acton PIP	Jim
Acton Garden Club	Jim
Assabet River Rail Trail	Jim
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Jim
Acton Forum	Jim (calendar)
West Acton Business Merchants & Professional Association	Jim will try
Colonial Acres /Dick Calendrella	John S.
Merchants Assoc (Willow books)	Kristin
Acton Housing Authority	Kristin
Acton Rotary Club / Chief Frank W	Kristin
Housing Authority residents	Kristin
Veterans Services	Kristin
Town of Acton Department Heads	Kristin
Cable channel	Kristin (DVD)
Womens Club	Kristin/Roland
Town of Acton Boards, Committee and Commissions	Kristin/Roland
Charlie Kadlac	Margaret
Terra Friedrich	Margaret
Alexandra Drive/Reeve St	Margaret
Avalon Apartments	Margaret
Minuteman Ridge	Margaret
Nagog Hill Road	Margaret
Northbriar	Margaret

Patriots Hill	Margaret
Pope Road area	Margaret
Robbins Park	Margaret
Wyndcliffe Drive	Margaret
Douglas PTO	Sahana
McCarthy-Towne PTSO	Sahana
Merriam PTO	Sahana
Acton Barn alumni network	Margaret
Acton Family Network	Margaret
Acton Newcomers and Neighbors	Margaret
United Way via Lauren	Margaret
League of Women Voters - Acton Area	Paulina
CoA	Paulina
Council on Aging	Paulina
Beth Petr	Sahana
Acorn Park	Sahana
Bellows Farm	Sahana
ABRHS PTO	Sahana
All School Email	Sahana
Gates PTO	Sahana
RJGreyPTO	Sahana
Acton Indian Community	Sahana
Realtor's and brokers	Sahana will try

Robbins Mill Estates Neighborhood	Sandeep
Arlington Street	Sue/Jim

IV.

- Confirmation on Alternatives (PC)-]

**Refer to handout(s) – Draft Alternatives*

Evaluation of Alternatives (from PC)

Alternative 3: Concentrate Growth – Map (from PC)

Draft slides of the presentation (from PC)

Charlie noted that from the previous workshops in March, people marked North Acton as a place for more development which was not marked as an area for development on the hand out.

Jim P- Will include a ‘blob’ of North Acton on the map

Margaret felt that for now we can concentrate on East Acton and leave out North Acton.

Roland – There is still room for development and re-development in North Acton.

Jim P pointed out that there was almost 90 acres of land in West Acton which is still vacant and developable. This he said was to address the question that Celia had posed earlier whether there was enough room in these areas if we direct growth to these ‘villages’/areas & what level of density?

Everyone was of consensus that more visuals would be a good idea to support these ideas. Jim P will try to come up with more visuals.

The discussion moved on to the draft presentation slides-

Minor changes were noted on the slide 20 & 21 on Chapter 40B/ Affordable housing approaches.

The discussion continued on to ‘Residential Growth’ slide number 24. The committee had concerns with PC arriving at the figures 1000, 600, 1300 number of more housing units over 20 years in alternative1, alternative2, alternative3 respectively. The argument was that there should be a methodology at arriving at these numbers in all the 3 alternatives. If there was, it should be noted or explained.

Jim SG had a suggestion in changing the language on these slides to read- limit growth to ‘as few as 600’ in Alternative2 and to read ‘up to 1300’ in Alternative 3.

Paulina noted that on Slide 30 –water consumption, the numbers on the ‘Evaluation of Alternatives handout’ and the slide did not match.

- Margaret and Jim SG will handle the presentation along with Jim P on the 23rd.
- Meeting format – put off to June 15th for discussion.
- Kristin will take care of the refreshments and Jim SG will provide cups/ plates.

Next Steps- Committee agreed to meet on June 15th to discuss the meeting format, finalize on the alternatives and discuss logistics for June 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm