

DRAFT Acton 2020 Committee Minutes

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

Location: Memorial Library, Meeting Room

Attending: Celia Kent, Jim Snyder-Grant, Sahana Purohit, Margaret Woolley Busse, Planners Collaborative (Daphne Politis, Jim Purdy) Planning Dept - Kristin Alexander
Board of Selectmen- John Sonner

- I. Minutes were approved for 8-31-11
- II. Blog Update from Jim S. Not many new comments.
- III. Assess ideas for strategies-
 - a) Goal 7: Maintain and improve financial well being of the town-

Margaret walked the committee through her draft. Some of the key points noted during the discussion-

 - Margaret suggested that the Objective 'Promote Fiscal Responsibility' to be the number one objective
 - Objective 7.1
Kristin suggested that the owner of 1.1 strategy should be HDC as they control all the signage in town
Paulina felt that the strategy 1.2 -streamlining business permitting processes, needed more information and details. She suggested adding Board of Selectmen on this
John S wanted more clarification on 1.1 on whether increasing flexibility would imply by law. Paulina suggested changing the text to read 'improve by law to allow more flexibility on sign allowances' - the wording has to be looked into more carefully.
The strategies 2.1 and 2.2 home should be in Goal 3.
Strategy 1.3 should include BoS and not the PB
 - Objective 7.2
Strategy 1.2 and 2.1 should also include BoS as the owner.
 - Objective 7.4.1 should point to Goal 5.
Also add another strategy- Provide more volunteer opportunities.
 - Objective 7.5
Look into re wording the sentence to read something like this -Attempt or manage to contain residential tax burden while maintaining the service level.
7.5.2- This strategy was taken from goal 6 and was suggested that this has to be looked into more for rewording. Add a strategy here 'look into regionalization of k-6' May be this goal can live in goal 6 and point to goal 7.
5.1 – should also include 'support effort at the state level'
Strategy 5.5 should include GAB as the owners.
 - b) Goal 3: Improve connections- The draft Jim P sent out earlier, had all the suggestions incorporated that Paulina had emailed to the committee and PC.
 - c) Goal 1- Paulina suggested that the objective 'village concept' to be the first objective and then the objective rural characteristics to follow this.
Celia will look into this suggestion more.

d) Senior/ Community center-

It was decided that instead of just addressing it as the 'senior center', it can be addressed as "The center that accommodates the needs of the seniors and the community at large"

TO DO: **Jim P** to send the revised strategies with the edits suggested to the committee -

Goal 4 by Monday; Goal 7 and Goal 2 by Tuesday; Goals 1, 3, 5 and 6 by Friday

Committee to send comments back to Jim P-

Goals 7 and 2 by Saturday; Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 by the following Tuesday

IV. Review fall meetings:

a. Kelley's corner meeting-

As of today the following are the people/businesses who have confirmed to Kristen

- Rosemary Nickelson from 350 Mass Ave
- Vincent and Sandy Cuttone – Owners of Sunoco
- Nancy Dinkel from the Northern Bank Trust will attend the Kelley's corner meeting as well as the meeting to discuss strategies of Goal 7
- Joan Myer from Acton Real Estate
- Chris Starr, owner of the Meineke building
- Edans and Evans- owners of the Roche Brothers plaza are not sure yet and Kristin will follow up to see if another representative from the company will attend.

This will be an informal meeting trying to explore different ideas. The following questions that Roland suggested to ask the invitees are excellent-

1. We might want to hear from them more generally rather than as reacting to any specific past proposals.

2. What would be critical in their minds to improve business success in Kelley's Corner.

3. Could they envision a gradual transition to a more pedestrian focused/walking/town center setting at KC; and if so, what would they see as critical to success of such a transition.

TO DO: The above questions to be sent to the people who can attend the meeting as well as those who will not be able to attend.

Margaret will send out a draft.

Kristin will try to approach a few more owners at Kelley's corner to see if they can attend this meeting.

b) Other Fall Meetings:

i) Time line- TO DO: Committee to send out the strategies of the goals to their respective committees assigned at least 2 weeks before the meetings.

ii) Format: Discussion of this was postponed till next week along with the logistics.

iii) October fest- PC will prepare the draft of the postcard for October fest by September 23rd

TO DO: Kristin will get the postcards printed for distribution at the Octoberfest.

V. PC walked the committee through the documents.

Refer link: [http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-](http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-33777/Draft%20Key%20Underlying%20Themes%20-%20DP%20-%2009-6-11.pdf)

[33777/Draft%20Key%20Underlying%20Themes%20-%20DP%20-%2009-6-11.pdf](http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-33777/Draft%20Key%20Underlying%20Themes%20-%20DP%20-%2009-6-11.pdf)

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<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-33779/Acton%202020%20Report%20Outline%20draft%20-%20JP%20-%208-31-11.pdf>

- Under the document, key underlying themes- The points noted reflect the goals in the following order- 4, 1, 3, 2, 6, 7
- Report Outline: Evaluation summary matrix will host all the blog entries as well as the responses to these blogs.

TO DO: Committee to send feedback and edits Daphne and Jim by next week and also any suggestions in rearranging the themes.

Daphne quickly walked through the November 9th meeting format: She suggested putting up “stations” around each goal. Set times for public to visit each “station/goal” and to give feedback.

TO DO: Kristin to look into Parker Damon building for availability.

Next Steps: The agenda for September 14th meeting will include debriefing of Kelley’s corner meeting, discuss affordable housing meeting materials and other last minute logistics and format.