Master Plan Committee Minutes

Town Hall, Banquet Hall

Minutes of October 22, 2008

Members Present: Gwen Broz, Sarah Heller, Cindy Scott, William R. Simpson

Members Absent: Cheri Carty, Sharon Mahoney

Also Present: Carol Childress (Grant-Writer), Tim Simon (Conservation Commission), Philip Chaffee (Resident)

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Chair Cindy Scott.

1. **Approval of Minutes of 10/8/08.** There was discussion about several items in the minutes. Cindy stated her displeasure that people had questioned her role as chair while she was not present. She emphasized that she would like to stay on as chairman. Several people expressed that they were happy to know Cindy wants to stay on the committee as chair. There was a feeling that she wanted to get off and that was why there was discussion at the last meeting.

   There was also discussion about the Phase II contract. There are still questions on the scope and the cost of the CMRPC proposal. Cheri has been emailing Jonathan Church of CMRPC to clarify several items, such as the Economic Chapter. After looking at both the Phase I and the Phase II contracts, we could find only 1 handwritten mention at the end of Phase I contract that said "Plus Economic Chapter $6,000". It was not initialed, nor did it say "paid by a grant", which is our understanding.

   The minutes should be amended to delete the line "We will bring the contract to the Selectmen for signatures and verification." They should not sign until we have the money to pay for it and all items are clarified. Carol has two grants in the works, one will be decided in December 2008, the other May 2009. These grants are based on the figure that CMRPC has given for Phase II, $52,990 and if we receive the first one, we will not have to go forward with the second. Carol is optimistic that we will have the money we need through these grants.

   Cindy moved and Bill seconded that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. **Recap of Oct 15 public hearing.** There was a general discussion about how to get better turnout at the public hearings. The Oct. 15 hearing was only committee members, plus Tim Simon, Philip Chaffee and two public access members who filmed the hearing. Thanks to Steve Scott of public access for videotaping, it will be aired on BPAC.

   For the Oct 29 hearing on Open Space and Recreation, different members volunteered to make phone calls. Cindy said she would put a sign at the transfer station. Bill will ask Donna Neylon to send out a mailing to everyone on her list. It is important to have the Recreation Committee there. Sarah will work on that. Tim will talk to other members of the Conservation Commission, John O'Leary and Ken Cleveland. Gwen will talk to Trudy O'Connell, chair of the Planning Board. Sarah said that she had missed the deadline for the New Leader for Oct 29 and would place an ad with the T&G. She said that Karen Trainor is going to mention it her column "About Town" in the T&G.

3. **Potential new members for the committee.** Cindy welcomed the participation Tim and Phil. Both said that they will submit letters to the Selectmen asking to join the MP committee. Both gave their emails so

that they can be included in correspondence.

There was strong agreement by all members that the Planning Board needs an active member. Sarah said that she had talked to Trudy about the need. Gwen said that she would contact her to reiterate.

4. **Incoming Communications**. Bill reviewed the mail: (a) Invoice from the New Leader for $29.50 for the Oct 15 hearing legal ad. (b) Information about the Governor's Olmstead Plan for community based long-term care and support of the elderly and those with disabilities. This may impact the MP but it is too new to know. (c) Notice about the Nov 17 town meeting.

5. **Discussion on Surveys**. Bill stated that he emailed that afternoon an excel file with the raw data from all surveys. Gwen suggested that we focus on compiling the results that pertain to the chapters we are currently working on (Housing, Open Space). In addition, we need to ask Jonathan Church about the Economic Chapter and that he stated must be finished by December due to the grant.

   Sarah asked members to give her topics that stood out in their minds from the surveys they input. Rudy would like this information for a meeting he is attending Friday, Oct 24. This is the list of items everyone agreed were very prevalent in the Surveys: Desire for bike paths; Retain the rural nature of the town; Develop small retail on Rt 9; Keep the roads narrow and curvy; Expand sidewalks; Fix the poor quality of the beach at South Pond and the weeds in North Pond.

   Carol stated that we need to be sure to keep the original surveys for future reference. Bill currently has most, Sarah has the rest. Bill will ask Donna if we can have a file cabinet somewhere in the town hall for storage.

6. **Outgoing Communications**: A memo asking the Planning Board to attend the Oct 29 hearing was placed in their town hall mailbox. A similar memo was put in the ZBA mailbox.

7. **New Business**: Bill spoke of the need to have written agendas and have efficient meetings. Cindy suggested that Bill email an agenda form to all prior to the meeting and members reply with any items they wish to have put on the agenda.

   Tim expressed the desire to be brought up to date with what the committee's goals and action plans are. Sarah made a copy of the Phase I contract for Tim and Cindy briefly went over the committee's role.

8. **Adjournment**: Cindy moved, Gwen seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Heller, Secretary

Date approved by the Committee: 12/3/08

Date submitted to the Selectmen's office: 12/17/08