

APPROVED

Town of Grantham Master Plan Committee Meeting February 27, 2017

Adam Ricker called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room of the Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

Present: Mary Hutchins, Bob MacNeil, Gene Martin, Adam Ricker (UVLSRPC)

Absent: Thain Allan

Meeting minutes: Nikki Arsenault

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

March 6, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

March 13, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Administrative:

Bob MacNeil made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 6, 2017 meeting. Seconded by Martin.

Unanimously approved and accepted.

New Business:

Ricker opened the meeting by returning to the “Recommendations” chapter, page 41. He explained that he went back through some of the survey data to see what matched. Because the section “Establish new residential districts...added use restrictions” was not addressed in the survey questions, Ricker suggested removing it. “To guide the potential development...creative development approaches” – the concept of open rural land is important, so it would be advisable to keep that, and strike out “strong incentive”. Then, “new control and review...a specified size”; the Committee agreed to strike this statement as well. “Create and apply...residential use” – Ricker commented that, again, this was not addressed in the current survey. MacNeil commented that this was related to the topic of steep slopes and ridgeline development, a topic brought up originally many years ago. The Committee agreed to remove this section.

“Create policies...Land Acquisition Fund” – Ricker noted that the survey did show that there was public support for the Conservation Commission’s Land Acquisition Fund; there was no evidence to show that any percentages should be changed. Following a comment from MacNeil regarding the cost of Grantham Conservation Commission’s land acquisition projects, Ricker suggested the following language for the section: “The Conservation Commission should continue to assess lands for conservation and approach the Town regarding purchase when necessary.” “Begin to explore...business districts can provide” – Ricker noted that this is something that the Planning Board

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keeps on their agenda, so it may be important to keep this in the language of the Plan; it was decided that the language would be changed to “assess the inventory of land and consider changes in the Zoning ordinance to accommodate the future needs.” “Ensure that...energy sources” will be left as is. The Committee agreed that renewable energy sources will continue to be on people’s minds. “Ensure that...open spaces in Grantham” – MacNeil suggested adding the concept of assessing lands for commercial use to the prior language about assessing land for conservation use.

Transportation Chapter:

Page 47 – bicycle and pedestrian traffic – OK

Page 49 – transportation goals – the Committee discussed the challenges faced by pedestrians in Grantham, specifically from the Grantham Village School to other Town buildings. With regard to the Park and Ride, Ricker noted that it may be helpful to have spot checks to see how/when it is used. Committee members agreed to add “where appropriate” to the section as well as “for adequate safety egress of emergency vehicles” with respect to the GVS emergency exit. MacNeil noted the importance of including the perspective of the Road Agent and Ricker suggested adding the language “work cooperatively with Road Agent to explore the possibility of (?)...” Following discussion amongst the Committee, it was decided that the date column would be removed. Ricker noted that he would draft a narrative to explain the removal of this information.

Adjournment

MacNeil made a motion to adjourn.

Hutchins seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

The next Master Plan Committee meeting will take place on Monday, March 6, 2017 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room of the Grantham Town Hall at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nikki Arsenault