

Meeting Minutes
Master Plan Housing, Population, Economic Development Subcommittee
June 6, 2018

Present: Rich Masse, Roger Murray, Jeff Ouellette, Kathy Tetreault, Lynne Palmer, Alan Harding, Cindy Melanson, Jim Kimberly, Steve Durgan, Matt Sullivan, Kathy Barnard

Kathy Barnard called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

The May 14, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for 6/20/18 at 8:00 AM. Committee members will meet in the Town Hall parking lot and then take a tour of several locations where rezoning may be considered to encourage economic development.

Kathy asked if committee members would be willing to schedule another committee meeting the following Wednesday – June 27, 2018 at 8:00 AM at the Library. This meeting is being scheduled earlier to avoid having a meeting on the 4th of July holiday. All agreed.

The committee then began its discussion of the 2007 Master Plan Greater Downtown chapter to determine items that have been completed, those that have not been completed and items that no longer apply.

Objective GD1 - keep

GD1 – this can be removed since the deficiency concerns in the downtown area have been mainly eliminated.

GD2 – mixed use character – keep

GD3 – installed kiosks – better use/ maintenance is needed. Keep green space/ gardens. Preserve existing parking. Management plans/ improved maintenance of kiosks/green spaces/gardens is needed in the downtown area. Need to make people more aware of events. Who will do this – Chamber, Town? Should there be more information on the Town website? More collaboration.

GD4 – support more in-fill development. Keep enhance tourism appeal.

GD5 – accomplished; remove.

Improve management of parking – need enforcement, but it needs to be sensitive and friendly – need to improve information about parking locations – especially long-term parking.

GD6 – signage is needed in the downtown area about parking locations – a map of parking areas could be on the Chamber and Town's website.

Take out parking on the soccer field – may want to consider removing “people movers”.

A parking study should be considered.

GD7 – keep enforcement but keep tourism in mind.

GD8 – transportation in/out to assist with parking during special events – 4th of July.

GD9 – encourage businesses to make parking available to the public when the businesses are closed.

GD10 – long term parking – needs evaluation and management. Planning Department could be responsible for monitoring/managing. Parking can be flexible to meet the downtown needs.

GD11 – keep

Objective GD3 – encourage safe pedestrian use of the downtown area.

GD12 – sidewalk planning and maintenance for pedestrians needs to be continued. Remove construction of sidewalk from Post Office to Town Hall – complete.

Pedestrian loop in the Bay Street area still needs to be considered.

Maintenance and upgrades of paths, sidewalks is important for economic development and needs to be continued.

GD13 -Public restrooms – some upgrades are in progress. Railroad station restrooms could be enlarged/upgraded.

Regular maintenance is a priority.

GD14/15 – update of sign ordinance language to maintain or encourage economic development

GD16 – continue to consider recommendations in the 2006 Plan and update.

Visual appearance

GD17 – Main Street project – remove – no longer exists.

GD18 – design guidelines are voluntary. Should they remain voluntary or should they become standards and enforced. Guidelines do not inhibit economic development. This issue needs more discussion.

GD19 – updates need to be monitored – upgrades and safety concerns (lighting in the downtown area)

GD20 – underground utilities – better visual appearance – keep.

Due to time constraints the committee then reviewed maps of the Town for site visits. The areas to be visited are as follows: Ossipee/Wolfeboro Town line Route 28; Center Street mixed use area – from 28/109 to Allen A Motel; Pine Hill (109A commercial area); Filter Bed Road area. Other areas may be visited at a future meeting. There was a suggestion that the Committee also visit the ROI overlay district area (Hospital/Brewster).

Rich Masse suggested we talk with educators, business owners and other stakeholders to obtain their input.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Submitted by Kathy Barnard and based on Kathy Tetreault's meeting notes