

Town Wide Planning Committee

140 Worcester Street

West Boylston MA

Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2018

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Sue Meola, Rich Simmarrano Norma Chanis, Tony Sanders, Siobhan Bohnson, Vinny Vignaly and Anita Scheipers (Chair).

Members Not Present: Joanne Dunne, James Morrissey,

Discussion and Decisions:

1. **Review of Chapter Status:** The committee discussed the status of the Phase 2 chapters which include:
 - a. **Cultural and Historic** – Norma covered the recent work she has completed with a member of the Historical Society. It was agreed this chapter still needs work to input the concepts on the historical side. There was discussion about the cultural side needing WBPA-TV input on their issues and concerns. Tony will work on getting their feedback.
 - b. **Financial Conditions and Strategies** – Vin Vignaly reviewed some concern she had with the draft chapter in that the data points given do not give the reader any indication as to whether things are meeting targets or should be of concerns. Anita Scheipers will work to add a brief statement regarding targets for each category to give the reader a better understanding of what the data means. She stated the Finance Committee is currently reviewing this draft and will have their suggested edits back at least one week before the public forum.
 - c. **Open Space and Recreation** – Vin Vignaly gave the group some updates of key items that will be built into the Open Space Chapter from the new Open Space Plan. He used the Goodale Park master plan as an example of where the town needs to take a stronger look at what future goals really are. Is the multi-phase total reconstruction needed now that we have new fields constructed at various other locations, such as Shrewsbury Street?

In general discussions about the overall Comprehensive Plan, Vin Vignaly expressed concern about the plan needing to give concrete goals and objectives that the townspeople can use as a basis for making decisions about future projects such as new facilities. The committee discussed the concept that the plan is not meant to solve every problem in each subject area/chapter, but rather is meant to point out issues and problems and identify action items to be taken over the next 5 years to address these issues. This is of particular need or concern where we find various groups may have conflicting goals or competing interest in resources. Anita Scheipers reminded the group that when all the draft chapters are completed, the hard work begins to review them all with the various stakeholder groups to identify these areas of conflict.

2. **Public Forum:** It was agreed that it is not feasible to hold the Phase 2 public forum in September. The group agreed to aim for a Nov 8th date. This can be better evaluated if it is feasible at the next meeting.
3. **Other Updates:** No other updates were discussed.

4. **Adjournment:** Tony Sanders moved and Rich Simmarrano moved and seconded to adjourn. Vote: All yes.
Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Anita M. Scheipers

Date Accepted: Dec 4, 2018