

MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH, NH

Minutes of October 28, 2015

Members Present: Alan Zeller, Teresa Cadorette, Beth Alpaugh-Cote, Tyler Ward, Sue Chollet, and James Kelly

Staff Present: Peter Throop, Director, and Laura Norton, Administrative Assistant, Office of Community Development

Master Plan Steering Committee Co-Chair Chollet called the workshop to order at 5:45 p.m. as she thanked the participants for coming. She told the members and audience “this is a public comment workshop.” She noted the Peterborough Master Plan Steering Committee has completed a draft update of the Master Plan Vision Chapter adding the draft was developed from extensive public input collected during a two-day town-wide Vision Forum held in the spring of 2014 (with over 200 participants) and from a town-wide Vision survey that was completed during the winter of 2014-2015 (with over 600 responses). “As well as input taken at many public hearings” she said.

Mr. Throop noted hard copies of the draft chapter had been distributed and made available at the Town House and Library. He explained the workshop consisted of five questions:

Dr. Cadordette volunteered as a scribe and captured the following responses:

What do you like about the Vision section of the Chapter?

- It emphasizes the quality of natural resources and the physical beauty of the Downtown
- It provides a rich, textured description of Peterborough
- It has enough flexibility to work over time, has the aspiration of seeing the “big picture”
- The focuses are on critical areas
- There is a broad range of demographics represented
- The resources are well maintained and established for growth.

What is missing from this Chapter?

- Home businesses and Telecommuters
- Either or challenges or priorities while being mindful of taxes “be mindful of taxes in EVERYTHING we do”
- Encourage and help the schools to come up with a better business plan (how they improve education and lower overhead)
- Data and demographics of the community
- Proactive in renewable energy, carbon foot printing and preparation for drastic weather changes in the future **Add a chapter to the Master Plan on climate resiliency?*
- Hazard mitigation plan could attract businesses to town
- The word “limitless too broad a term

Guiding Principles: Helpful? What to add? Change?

- The term “growth” as a heading is too broad a term
- Replace paragraph with “growth” with “potential”
- No growth is an editorial comment and doesn’t need to be there (take the last sentence out of the quote)

Right Priorities? Anything Missing? Other Important Things?

- Add “centers of excellence” and “higher education focusing on innovation”
- Zoning policies drive the need of the community
- Identify behaviors of our zoning
- Appropriate place to be mindful of tax burdens and tax payers
- Be mindful of tax base, including the schools
- Emphasis on good-paying, quality jobs

Questions and Challenges Raised for Master Plan Chapter Updates

The term “tourism” is not in the Master Plan Vision Chapter but “visitors” is.

Next Meeting:

November 25, 2015

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Norton

Administrative Assistant