

## MINUTES

### Master Plan Steering Committee

TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH  
Wednesday, July 10, 2013 – 5:45 p.m.  
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

**Members Present:** Mose Olenik, Sue Chollet, Beth Alpaugh-Cote, Alan Zeller, James Kelly and Peter Gosline

**Staff Present:** Carol Ogilvie, Director and Laura Norton, Administrative Assistant, Office of Community Development and Peter Throop, New Planning Director

Chair Zeller called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

#### Introduction of New OCD Director Peter Throop

Chair Zeller read an article published in the local paper about the new Director. A former city planner for the City of Keene and Associate Core Faculty at Antioch New England Graduate School, Mr. Throop comes from the Monadnock Conservancy where he has served five years as a Project Director. When done Chair Zeller looked up and said “so I think we are in good hands, welcome.”

Mr. Throop noted he was finishing up at the Conservancy and was looking forward to starting fulltime.

#### May Minutes

A motion was made/seconded (Chollet/Alpaugh-Cote) to approve the May Minutes as written. Ms. Alpaugh-Cote abstained, all other were in favor.

#### Update of status of Economic Development Chapter

Ms. Ogilvie told the members there was not a lot to report as yet. “It has not gotten off the ground” she said. She went on to explain the EDA and Greater Downtown TIF had been pulled together to meet for a request from Michael Gordon of the Parks Committee. “With some overlap we got a meeting scheduled (which Mr. Kelly missed as he was out of the country). She told the Committee that some of those members indicated that they would be willing to be involved with the update of the chapter. “They would act as a sounding board overseeing the chapter” she said adding “they will not be creating the draft but available for input and would be involved in its review.” She noted an outline for the draft has been completed “but right now it is impossible to say when you will see something.”

Chair Zeller asked who the members of the EDA were with Ms. Ogilvie giving him that information.

Mr. Kelly asked “is the updated chapter going to have any dramatic change from the one written 10 years ago?” Ms. Ogilvie replied “yes” adding “*how* dramatically different, I’m not sure.”

She went onto note “one thing that may be helpful is that a census has been done so that we can get some basic economic data that we don’t have now. We can then do comparisons to state and national data.” She noted the Economic Policy Plan adopted in 1999 and 2000. She explained that it contained a lot of very specific recommendations for land use and master planning. “It would be helpful to at least go back and visit it to see if any of those recommendations are still valid” she said. She mentioned one controversial recommendation was to set aside 25% of the land area to be zoned for commercial use. “Statements like that may deserve another look” she said. Ms. Olenik asked how old the census data was with Ms. Ogilvie replying the data had been collected in 2010 but added some of the data was not that old because of the way the Census is now collected. “Some of their data is more recent” she said adding “it is easier to get national and state wide data than town data.” Ms. Ogilvie also noted their web site was not very user-friendly and difficult at best to navigate. When asked why the towns were left on their own Ms. Ogilvie explained that the State Planning Office no longer prepares information and data bases to be able to compare region to region. “They lost their data person about 5 or 6 years ago and never filled that position” she said.

(In reference to the chapter) Mr. Kelly asked “anything about supporting business community?” and referred to building economic conditions through collaborations. He cited an article written by a colleague of his from Harvard that targeted people collaborating education, economic and town policies to support the economy. Mr. Gosline asked if the members might get a copy of the article. Ms. Ogilvie noted she would send it out via e-mail to everyone. Mr. Kelly cautioned “I don’t want you to focus on the actual case, of where to put a business, it is the collaborative team I want you to look at.”

#### Review of Work Plan

Ms. Ogilvie noted she would like the members to spend a few minutes orienting Mr. Throop and think about the next steps for the Committee “so he has a bit of an idea of what he will be involved with.” She went on to note “we have talked about revisiting the Land Use Chapter and all agreed it would require a new process with some visioning sessions.” She noted there was no money in the budget to hire anyone. “At some point vision sessions will likely be organized by OCD to get back to that chapter. It is 10 years old as well and a lot has changed.”

Ms. Ogilvie told the members “we need to logistically figure out what scale of a process can be managed with no specific budget for this.” She noted mapping and other volunteer assistance would be requested to help staff put together a day of meeting and sessions comparing what the vision was at that time and what has happened since. “Trying to get at the big vision for the future of Peterborough” she said.

Ms. Chollet asked about the potential for graduate students from Antioch. Mr. Throop replied “maybe” and gave the members a brief review of the intern program noting “the issue is timing.”

Ms. Olenik asked if the Planning Board was working on any land use and zoning with Ms. Ogilvie replying “yes” adding “there are two large issues they are working on” and went on to explain the re-writing of the Open Space Ordinance as well as the Traditional Neighborhood Infill Ordinance.

Ms. Ogilvie also gave the members an update on the Consultants hired for that Ordinance and how she expects them to meet in August to regroup and figure out the next steps. Ms. Chollet asked if there were other chapters ready for review. Ms. Ogilvie noted the Population & Housing Chapter and well as the Municipal Facilities Chapter have been ready for review but had not been presented to the Planning Board (Public Hearing) for one reason or another. She noted the Planning Board had received copies of both and she had not had any issues reported to her. “They will most likely be heard at the Planning Board meeting in August” she said.

Mr. Kelly asked to go back to the Economic Development chapter for a moment. He noted he had found his copy of the draft for that chapter and asked for two points of clarification between the old chapter and new draft.

#### Other Business

Ms. Ogilvie noted the Bus Tour was scheduled for Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center. “We have 23 people signed up so far” she said. Chair Zeller asked if other interested people might attend with Ms. Ogilvie replying “yes” noting the Boards and Committees that were invited. Mr. Gosline noted it may be too early to predict what themes might come from the tour with Ms. Ogilvie noting “it will interesting to hear back from you.” Mr. Zeller noted his neighborhood was on the tour. Ms. Ogilvie told the members there would be a list of sites and a map for them on the day of the tour. Ms. Chollet noted her neighborhood was also on the tour and asked if there would be a post tour meeting. She also suggested “if we are last on the list we could meet in our Common House.” She noted she would check the availability and get back to the staff.

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

#### Next Meeting Date

August 14, 2013 at 5:46p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Norton  
Administrative Assistant