

**GREATER DOWNTOWN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT
ADVISORY BOARD**

February 24, 2009

Bridge Task Force Organizational Meeting

MINUTES

Task Force Members Present: Rick Monahan, Pamela Gleeson, Hope Taylor, Craig Hicks, Joanna Eldredge-Morrissey, Duffy Monahan, Richard Estes, Pam Crook, and Sheila Kirkpatrick.

Also Present: Office of Community Development Director Carol Ogilvie and Administrative Assistant Laura Norton.

Ms. Ogilvie welcomed the members of the four Task Forces. She noted the groups were not official subcommittees so they do not have to take Minutes, can schedule meeting as they need to and may select their own leader or spokesperson. Ms. Ogilvie distributed contact information to the members adding they were welcome to use the Board of Selectmen's meeting room for meetings. She encouraged as much advance notice as possible so that the Office of Community Development could reserve the room and post the meetings so that the general public is kept informed.

Ms. Ogilvie noted that the Task Forces would be called to report back to the Greater Downtown TIF/EDA meetings with their progress. She added the next meeting was scheduled for March 17, 2009 at the Peterborough Unitarian Church Parish Hall. Ms. Ogilvie noted that in her absence (vacation) she would be in touch via e-mails and that Laura Norton and the rest of the OCD Staff would be available for any support needed. She then touched on the life spans of the Task Forces noting Event Management "would most likely meet a few times to create the events calendar, submit it and pretty much be done." She added "Traffic Management however will be more long term than that."

Ms. Ogilvie explained how the members could access the Main Street Bridge Folder from the Greater Downtown TIF Advisory Board website. She added all the Power Point presentations and consultant's information was located there, and all new information will be posted as it is created.

Ms. Ogilvie concluded "that is about it" and asked if the members had any questions.

Mr. Hicks mentioned a traffic study that had been conducted a few years ago and asked if that may be made available to the Traffic Management Task Force. "It is a few years old, but it is good start" he said. Ms. Taylor asked for street maps and Ms. Monahan asked about the location of the accumulated research. It was agreed that once the Task Forces "get off the ground" their information would be kept at the Town House for easy access. Ms. Monahan then asked if the Task Forces were offering "a proposal or a reaction?" with Ms. Ogilvie replying "well, both really, but initial, since there is *no* plan for traffic management, the consultants are looking to

you for input to guide the design.” She went to note the Traffic Task Force will research and recommend how to get traffic into and through the downtown.

Mr. Hicks noted his interest was high due to the school busses that use the Main Street Bridge. “A light will not work” he said adding there is a particular window of time to get kids to and from school, “that is a given every morning and every afternoon.”

Ms. Monahon asked about staggering the school day start times with Mr. Hicks describing how that already happens “there is some staggering already” he said, “but Peterborough is only one of nine towns in the District” adding the other towns are not involved, we have to be careful about changing schedules. Ms. Ogilvie interjected “this is the type of information the consultants need to know.” She also added that the Louis Berger team would be available when the Task Forces were ready to meet with them. When asked if the Louis Berger engineers had thought of what they might do Ms. Ogilvie replied “I think they believe the bridge cannot be closed.” Ms. Taylor agreed, noting “they have said that twice in meetings.” Ms. Ogilvie added the location of the Fire Station on Summer Street almost makes it impossible. She added “so what are the other options available to minimize the construction impacts?”

Ms. Gleeson (Communications and Information Task Force) noted she would like to sit in on all the Task Force initial meetings if possible “to see what the groups are doing,” “That is a great idea” interjected Mr. Hicks. After brief discussion and a gracious offer of her home for meetings from Ms. Taylor, the members decided to meet at the Town House because of its proximity to informational materials. The members decided on March 3, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

In closing Mr. Hicks asked about traffic models that were done a few years back with Ms. Ogilvie noting she thought they were included in the Intersection Study. He also noted the timing of the Bridge project and the completion of the Hospital Connector Road as “a good thing.”

Ms. Monahon suggested the group set a time limit of one hour for meetings – period, with the members in agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

It was recognized that Mr. Richard Estes was in attendance and would like to join the Aesthetics/Historic Considerations Task Force. In closing Ms. Ogilvie noted “a good public process is more than half the battle, thank you all very much for being here today.”

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Norton
Administrative Assistant