



DRAFT NOTES
Master Plan Working Group
April 23, 2013, 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM
Town Hall Annex

Present:

Philip Hudner
James Whitin
Jeff Bull
David Cole
John Perry
Jack Baughan
Elaine Ostroff
Jim Hartnett
Ann Boxler
James Coyne

Absent:

Gay Gillespie
Sean Leach

1. Steering Committee/Working Group

- Expectations
 - Appointments
- What did we expect, what is the time commitment
Phil gave information on how they engaged the public during the 2004 plan, suggested weekly updates and letters to the paper.
Chairman often brought in people; very informal
They spent the last year cleaning up the document
More frequent meetings initially to establish process; then perhaps bi weekly or monthly.
Members select subgroups to follow
Raising questions regarding the master plan action items
Phil recommended keeping it a public process

Jack Baughan asked who uses the Master Plan; noted that the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC) used it. Comments that was used when applying for funding; completion of Master Plan a requirement for most state funding.
Phil suggested going to the Board of Selectmen to get them involved and using the services from SRPEDD

Ann Boxler would like to keep the process going after plan is completed; not just stop but have in frequent but ongoing meetings. She also was concerned about slow process in last Plan.

Jack B noted several older studies that apparently not referred to, same topics covered again & again. Suggested how the process should work –involving existing committees and how to get them to buy into the process. He does not want a redo jut an update. Ostroff noted that his ealier

suggestion about committee involvement was reflected in the updated draft of Chapter list. It includes all the Town Committees, departments.

Hartnett suggested that the group push the implementation process.

Jack B: take a realistic view of the population buildout, it was overstated during the last plan and impacted funding for different departments

Who would like to be involved in the process: the following agreed, all expressed concern re timing; wanted more focus and assignments outside of meetings.

Ann Boxler

Jim Coyne

Jack Baughan

Jeff Bull

- Sean Leach and Gay Gillespie not present but had indicated willingness to review.

Limited involvement: John Perry, Phil Hudner

Jim Whitin would like to see the work completed much quicker than 18 months. Also noted that the Planning Board as a whole would take ongoing and continuing role in implementation.

Ostroff noted that next meeting would lead to specific action steps

Phil H– how to consolidate

John Perry – concerned about trying to satisfy everyone, in doing so it leads to a watering down of the process. And the plan turns to mush.

John P –“Look at google earth- the horse is out of the barn as far as development is concerned.”
Concerned about the number of subdivisions that have been approved but not built

Jim Whitin – the key issue is commercial zoning

2. Survey report

David Cole read succinct summary of key priorities from survey. It had 1473 responses. Gives us good indication of priorities. Noted that in relation to schools high percent thought important enough to pay more taxes.

Complete responses to be posted on the website.

3. Previous meeting several people agreed to review at action steps:

-David noted that in the Economic Dev Action Steps, SMASS had been involved and that should be noted.

There weren't any other specific comments; promises to provide at next meeting.

Jack noted discrepancy in fast tracking how to deal with competing interests.

Discussion that schools need to be included in the update.

May 1st 11:00 a.m. next meeting at the Annex.

Handout at meeting: Updated chapter list with more committees included.

Land Use Sean Leach

- Westport Land Trust
- Agricultural Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Planning Board
- Westport Economic Development Task Force

Housing Elaine Ostroff (PB)

- Housing Partnership Committee/*Affordable Housing Trust*
- Housing Rehab Advisory Committee
- Planning Board
- Historical Commission
- *Housing Authority*

Economic Development Jack Baughan

- Westport Business to Business
- Westport Economic Development Task Force
- Agricultural Commission
- *Agricultural/Open Space Preservation Trust Fund Council*
- Westport Fishermen's Association
- Narrow Redevelopment Committee
- *Tax Incentive Program Committee*
- *Energy Committee*

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Historical Commission
- Agricultural Commission
- Conservation Commission
- Westport Water Resources Management Committee
- Westport Fishermen's Association
- *Community Preservation Committee*
- *Estuaries Project Subcommittee*
- *Harbor Advisory Committee*
- *Shellfish Advisory*
- *Westport Cultural Council*
- *Westport River Watershed Alliance*
- *Westport Community Schools*

Open Space and Recreation Ann Boxler/Jeff Bull

- Westport Land Trust
- Agricultural Commission
- Beach Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Westport Youth Athletic Association
- Westport Youth Soccer
- Westport Youth Baseball

- Private Clubs, Golf, Beach, Marinas, Yacht Clubs
- Landing Commission
- *Recreation Commission*
- *Conservation Commission*

Services and Facilities **Jack Baughan**

- Capital Improvement Planning Committee
- Commission on Disability
- Municipal Buildings (Schools, Police, Fire, Highway, Town Hall, Annex)
- Landing Commission
- *Long-Term Planning Town Building Committee Evaluation Committee*
- *Personnel Board*
- *Council on Aging*
- *Information Technology*
- *Cable Advisory Board*

~~Mobility (Transportation)~~ Traffic and Circulation

- Planning Board
- Highway
- SRPEDD
- Police
- Highway
- Fire
- SRTA
- Council on Aging
- *East Beach Road Reconstruction ADHOC Committee*