

PLANNING BOARD

TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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GREENFIELD PLANNING BOARD Minutes of April 5, 2012 Police Station – 321 High Street

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson at 7:04 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Roxann Wedegartner, Chair; Linda Smith, Vice-chair, Mary Newton, Clerk; Clayton Sibley;
James Allen

PUBLIC: Nancy Hazard

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Moved by Sibley, seconded by Allen and voted 4:0 to approve the meeting minutes from March 15, 2012 with a friendly amendment on 3 typo corrections:

Meeting called to order by “Acting Chairperson” and secondly, CHAIRS STATEMENT: should actually say, “ACTING CHAIRS STATEMENT: This meeting is being recorded”. Third; the motion count for the approval of the minutes says 3:1:0 but perhaps should say 3:0:1 if the order of the count is approved/declined/abstained as Linda Smith had abstained during this motion.

Also, Smith requested a fourth correction with regard to The Board’s discussion on the issue of the recommendation to the Town Council on Petition for East Wayland Pines to be Accepted as a Public Way. Linda Smith would like the minutes to show that she requested a copy of the minutes from previous meetings regarding East Wayland Pines only for the purpose of clarification of the sidewalk issue for this subdivision.

Discussion Items:

a. Upcoming Master Plan Preparation.

The Board discussed the Steering Committee and what that may look like and who may be involved and how many members may be needed for this committee. Wedegartner said we would discuss this in more detail later in the meeting. The Board was in agreement that they liked HUD’s comment on the RFP to the effect of selecting a consultant with a criterion of experience or familiarity that includes under-served populations in the process (i.e., Human Rights Commission member or a Board member of the Community Action Plan).

Wedegartner brought up Peggy Sloan’s comments (pg.23) regarding insurance and rejecting of articles, etc. Wedegartner felt that these comments were hard to understand. She stated that Eric would be explaining these comments at the next meeting.

Wedegartner and Smith also brought up page 20 item 2, The Comparative Evaluation Chart. The paragraph leading into it has a typo “once the evaluators...assign a proposal”. This should say, “....assign a weight” or “...assign an overall value” ??

Wedegartner stated that on page 3, Peggy put in realistic dates. Wedegartner read through the dates to check on vacation or travel plans of Board Members. Both Smith and Newton stated that they will be out of town the week of July 12th through July 20th.

Wedegartner read the March 29th memo from Eric Twarog that explained the options available with regard to the FRCOG's possible involvement with the Master Plan.

1. The FRCOG could be hired directly.
2. The FRCOG could be encouraged to submit a proposal.

Wedegartner asked for any opinion on this issue. Newton stated that she prefers the second option of encouraging the FRCOG to submit a plan so that the very *best* applicant could be chosen. Also it could be both exciting and enlightening to have Greenfield looked at by fresh eyes. Other members concurred with this opinion.

Wedegartner also read Eric's March 20, 2012 memo stating that Peggy Sloan wanted to know if FRCOG could submit a plan. Wedegartner stated that we could hire someone for the visionary process, then, hire the FRCOG to do the Master Plan. The Board discussed this option also. Wedegartner said our options are open and we won't know how we may want to split this up, or not, until we get into the review process with the applicants. Currently, the Board's general consensus is to have the FRCOG submit a proposal.

The Board discussed the Steering Committee in more detail. Wedegartner answered Smith's earlier question with regard to numbers of members on other Steering Committees. The town of Easthampton consisted of 40 people, but we don't know the ratio of residents to business people or officials. Northampton had 35 (no at large members). Amherst had 24 people (10 at large). Keene had 40+ people.

Smith read through her list of possible members for a Steering Committee. Her list included members of each of the town's Boards as well as members of other organizations such as Community Action, EDC, GBA, Greening Greenfield, GCC, Franklin Medical Center, three local High School students and members at Large, etc.

Wedegartner commented that she believes there should be members from the town departments because they are "the keepers of the reality". These individuals know what things cost. Wedegartner said that we would continue this discussion at the next meeting.

MOTION: Sibley moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending legal matters. Seconded by Allen. A Roll Call Vote was taken. Smith, Sibley, Allen, Newton and Wedegartner all voted 5:0 to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending legal issues and correspondence of March 29, 2012 by Attorney Martel.

MOTION: Newton moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Seconded by Allen. A Roll Call Vote was again taken. Smith, Newton, Allen, Sibley and Wedegartner voted 5:0 to adjourn the Executive Session.

Next Meeting was set for 7 P.M on April 19, 2012 at the Greenfield Police Station

Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Smith, seconded by Allen, and voted 5:0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Newton
Clerk, Greenfield Planning Board