

Master Plan Implementation Committee

Minutes of 3-11-10

Meeting called to order by Chairman/Planning Board member, Ed Forsberg, at 6:30 pm, in the Planning Board Office, Room 212, Town Hall.

Members Present: Ed Forsberg, Michael Gallahue, Roger Turner, Al Goetz, Dick Nottebart

Staff Present: Don Johnson, Stephanie Mercandetti, Maura Therrien

Ongoing Business, and Implementation Activities:

- **Status of joint Board of Selectmen/Economic Development Commission and subcommittee meetings on downtown revitalization:** There have been no joint meetings of the BOS/EDC or any subcommittee meetings.
- **Reinvestigation of the Downtown Municipal Campus concept as put forth in the Master Plan:** The following discussion ensued. The Downtown Technical Assistance Grant has seen no progress as of now. Selectman Snuffer's presentation at the Capitol Budget Meeting was concerned with the new police station. Mike Berry was published in the Walpole Times stating that sex offenders reporting at the police station would not have the required buffer should the new station be built next to the middle school. (AG) Johnson Middle School might close and be combined with Bird Middle School. Excavation on site might provide gravel as to be used as payoff leveling fields for sports. Approximately three acres on Washington Street near the pizza shop is DPW land. Water table is a concern here. That site is ideal; it is on a main street providing easy access. The area is five or six acres. A water treatment plant needs to be one hundred feet from a pumping gas station. Building a second story with an elevator might be more cost effective than a large one story building. In North Attleborough an architect (Kaestel Boos Associates of Foxborough) designed the new police station facility as a retrofit of an old factory building. (DJ) Bird and Kendall land left to town was designated "forest." Just before the dam on Washington Street at Stone Street, or School Street at the Walpole Woodworkers' property, or at Ginley Funeral Home there are two house lots, there are a few other areas available for development. Perhaps Robbins Road would be good for the Senior Center. The police are justifiably not happy with the old town hall. Radio towers need to be considered at each site. Review the Master Plan for our next meeting on 4/13. The Board of Selectmen will discuss the location of the police and fire stations. Spring Town Meeting will be 5/3. Lately T riders are parking in public areas rather than use the lot behind the station. A new station is far in the future. It may be located near Gilmore's or CVS. The town needs to rethink the downtown campus. The Master Plan is a starting point.

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- **Status of potential funding sources to be made available for the implementation of various economic development and planning activities identified in the Master Plan as updated, including the CDBG Economic Development Planning Grant Application:** The Board of Selectmen and the Economic Development Commission are working on the Route 1A junk yards, parking in town, and the Industrial Park. (SM); and
- **Green Communities Program:** The Green Communities Grant application is due early in May. (SM)
- **Responses to the MPIC's inquiries on future uses of Norfolk County land:** Correspondence had been received from Norfolk County which indicated that they may be considering the disposal of a portion of their land located on the easterly side of North Street. Al said this is consisting of about twenty five acres which could be developed for fifty houses. Ask the Town's state legislators for the town to have the right of first refusal. (AG) Al motioned, seconded by Ed, to contact the town's state representatives and senator on this request. Voted 5-0-0.
- **Housing Production Plan & Housing Partnership – Brief update:** No action
- **Zoning Bylaw Rewrite Phase 2 – Brief update:** No action
- **Historical Commission – Future Master Plan activities, including potential project funding sources:** No action
- **Open Space & Recreation Plan Update – Brief update:** No action
- **Representative from the Recreation Committee for the MPIC:** No action.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,