

Present: Tom Failla, Chairman, Jane Connolly, Vice Chairman, Jim Carlon, Britta Lerner

Absent: Sally Korsh, Don Saltzman, Ken Edgar

Also present: Land Use Director

Also present for the discussion of Crafting of Strategic Plan for Weston's future, Phase 1
First Selectman Gayle Weinstein and Selectman Dennis Tracey

DISCUSSION WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN: CRAFTING OF STRATEGIC PLAN FOR WESTON'S FUTURE, PHASE 1

The Chairman welcomed First Selectman Gayle Weinstein and Selectman Dennis Tracey.

The First Selectman submitted a draft proposal (copy attached) for the proposed Town of Weston Strategic Planning Committee including what the committee should consider and also conducting discussions to gauge the desirability of available options and to collect data and what the initial groups would be and thirdly to conduct a survey market research to better understand why people may be moving to Weston, chose to leave or stay in Weston, amenities that are missing and or desired, desirability of commercial expansion around town center and feelings/concerns around senior/cluster/alternative housing.

A discussion followed to include that the Commission with the Board of Selectmen would be a collaborative effort including hearing from the residents and developers -a town wide effort. Also a concern expressed regarding the school enrollment and real estate sales.

A consensus of the meeting was to have the Chairman talk to the absent members and that the Vice chairman would be the head person representing the Commission at the upcoming Selectmen's meeting on Monday June 15th, for farming and land use.

Public comment from Margaret Wirtenberg stated that she would like to attend the subcommittee meetings and give a report.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AMENDMENT TO SECTION 350 – SIGNS

Vice chairman Jane Connolly submitted a draft proposal for a potential amendment to Section 350 for Signs. A discussion followed by going over the draft proposal in detail. With comments made, Jane Connolly will revise the draft and talk to the Town Attorney. The draft discussion will be continued to the next meeting on July 13th when a full board is present and then sent to COG and have a public hearing in September.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Chairman moved that the Commission approve the minutes, as edited, for May 4th, 2015. Seconded by Britta Lerner. Vote in favor (4-0) Ken Edgar, Don Saltzman, Sally Korsh absent.

The Chairman moved that the Commission approve the minutes, as amended by the Vice Chairman and Chairman, of May 18th, 2015. Seconded by Jane Connolly. Vote in favor (4-0) Ken Edgar, Don Saltzman, Sally Korsh absent.

Respectfully submitted.

Joan Lewis, Administrative Assistant

Approval: Minutes approved on 9/8/15- 3 in favor – 3 absent from this meeting and 1 absent at the time of vote.

TOWN OF WESTON STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

This committee is intended to be Phase II of "Crafting a Strategic Plan for Weston's Future." The committee shall consist of up to 15 members, with a term to expire in 2 years. The committee shall report on its progress to the Board of Selectmen quarterly. The mission of the committee is to: 1. Assess the views of residents, potential residents and stakeholders with regard to future planning for the Town of Weston, including any potential changes in the Town's planning and zoning regulations, to achieve its long term goal to be an attractive, affordable and sustainable community; and, 2. Working collaboratively with the Planning and Zoning Commission and other pertinent town boards, commissions and committees, make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen with regard to a strategic plan, including a marketing plan, to achieve the Town's goals.

This committee should consider:

1. Conducting town meetings to discuss the Report, dated May 7, 2015, entitled "Crafting a Strategic Plan for Weston's Future", gain feedback from all stakeholders and modify/fine-tune next steps;
2. Conducting discussions to gauge the desirability of available options and to collect data. Key initial groups will be:
 - i. Representative town residents
 - ii. Individuals who have recently moved into town
 - iii. Real estate professionals who work in area
 - iv. Parents of High-School seniors and parents of recent High-School graduates
 - v. Leaders of comparable towns and other knowledgeable individuals from outside of Weston.
3. Conduct survey market research to better understand (among other things):
 - i. Why people may be moving to Weston?
 - ii. Why people chose to leave or stay in Weston?
 - iii. What amenities are missing and desired in Weston?
 - iv. Desirability of commercial expansion around town center.
 - v. Feelings/concerns around senior/cluster/alternative housing