

Town of Wentworth Planning Board MINUTES for 6/3/2019 (Accepted and Modified During the WPB July Meeting)

6:33 PM Madam Chairman Marina Reilly Collette called the meeting to order

Roll Call

Marina Reilly Collette, Tracy Currier, John Meade, Palmer Koelb, Ray Welch and Omer Ahern Jr. as Ex Officio, Quorum Achieved

Craig Pasco alternate was NOT present

Additionally Present at the Meeting

Madame Selectman Chair Morgan Currier representing the select board with Selectman Omer Ahern Jr. in both capacities.

North Country Council Co- Director and CEO Michelle Moren-Grey attended as requested for presentation.

- Draft meeting minutes of 5/6/2019 were reviewed and one change acknowledging Omer Ahern to Omer Ahern Jr. was made. Acceptance of minutes was motioned by Tracy Currier and seconded by Palmer Koelb, Unanimous vote
- Chair stated reason for co board meeting as review of moving forward with Master Plan Update and presentation by North Country Council.
- Chair recognized Co Director and CEO Michelle Moren-Grey of North Country Council
- Director Grey presented the following points on a Master Plan
 - Our Present Master plan is from 1985 and should have been updated every 10 years. It is woefully past due
 - It is a guiding document for Land Use and future vision for a community. It should be used by all town boards as a guideline when making decision concerning growth and vision
 - The RSA only requires (2) sections in a master plan ... Vision and Land Use

- A new Master Plan should have a wide audience of townspeople and should coincide with other town functions to get maximum input
 - A Master Plan should be concise so it is engaging. We need to decide how to receive information
 - Where are we today and where is Wentworth Going
 - Schools should be involved as it is key to keep younger people actively involved to actively stop out migration
 - Demographics can be a section but the information changes year to year. It is easily available through a website and a link to such is all that really needs to be provided,
 - A good master plan can take 9 Months to two years to complete.
 - Morgan Currier CWS asked a range of cost- It can range from \$20,000 to \$45,000. Many items such as involvement by the town planning board and volunteers as well as grants through economic development and or Transportation can offset costs. It can range No Community Lift to a Hybrid of shared responsibility.
 - Master Plan Forums will need to be brought before a comment Forums. It is best when these are dual purpose such as Market Day and or other town functions.
 - Both Site Plan Review and Heritage District were discussed as elements that require a current Master Plan. Concepts of Site Plan Review and Heritage District as well as Lack of Zoning in Wentworth was discussed.
- Marina Reilly Collette CWPB stated at this time NCC should prepare a budget for the Land Use and Vision aspects of a Master Plan so it can be discussed further in depth.
 - Morgan Currier CWS stated that Market Day may be a good time to roll out to our Townspeople the coming Master Plan Update. Morgan also stated that she could involve the school about the vision of younger citizens.
 - Site Plan Review was discussed in length by John Meade, Ray Welch, Omer Ahern Jr. and Marina Reilly Collette. How this may be a good or bad thing for Wentworth
 - John Meade brought up the issue of the Landfill Proposal in Dalton and the fact the Town does not want it but without zoning and Site Plan Review may be unable to stop it. Ray Welch stated that any Zoning has always been a bad word in Wentworth and where is the line drawn when it comes to a size of a commercial property. Tracy Currier spoke about amount of Employees being a trigger. Omer Ahern Jr. Spoke that any infringement of land use and civil liberties is very distasteful too him and any progress of such he would be extremely cautious about. Ray Welch discussed if a landfill was not acceptable where would a Whitcher trash be in our thoughts. Where would Reeds shop at the town line be and what about his Father building a barn shop. John Meade stated it was all in how our Master Plan

would be structured and the vision of Land Use. John Kings back up alarms and Ducks were discussed and how John being a neighbor and business owner is differing from the Dollar General box store owned by a Fitchburg Mass Developer and rented by a Tennessee Company such as DG. John Meade stated these are not our neighbors and they do not care about our community.

- Marina Reilly Collette discussed how development could outreach from Plymouth as it is a college town.
- While Michelle Moren-Grey was at our meeting she brought up the impending culvert survey of the Baker River Watershed being performed by NCC under a DOT grant.

Other minor conversations of reiteration were had to all of the same points above.

John Meade made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 seconded by Tracy Currier voted unanimous. Next agreed upon meeting is 1 July 2019 at 6:30 PM Agenda issued by next week however presently no requests are on the calendar.

Beyond the meeting I want to thank Michelle Moren-Grey as well as Select Chairman Morgan Currier for their time and attending our meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

John Meade

Wentworth Planning Board Secretary