

Minutes  
Culture, History and Governance (CHuG)  
Sub-Committee  
April 9, 2008

Present:

CHuG: Paul Giese, Mark Hochman, Jack MacLean, Karen Keane, Harriet Todd, Peter Sugar

COG: Rita Walsh, Patti Kelleher

We discussed the following:

- We reviewed the current status of the working paper: we had received the draft and have reviewed it; corrections and comments were then incorporated and were returned to Rita.
- We considered the next steps: Jack has written a new front end – which in effect covers issues that may be general to all working papers. Thus the question is whether there should be separate lead-in introductions to all papers or a more general master introduction to the whole Master Plan.
- The essence is to have a consistent format and heading to all papers/chapters. The perspective should be one for the readers, the public, and thus the language needs to be clear and understandable
- We briefly touched on Lincoln's Historic District By-Law, which deals with the subject as a single overlay district, with separate areas within this: Jack will send to COG
- We also recognized that there are a few interviews which we still need to conduct; e.g. with the Audubon, the Lincoln Historical Society, the Lincoln Minute Men, etc.
- There also needs to be a discussion with certain of the town's cultural organizations: Bemis, the Cultural Council, the Library. Should these be separate interviews or possibly a single group discussion with all present? Yet to be decided.
- All interviews will be included in the Cultural and Historic Resource Chapter as an appendix.
- We requested that we may be given a skeleton outline of the whole Master Plan document, with a possible time line for completion. There is also the issue of who will be doing the final coordination: perhaps the Steering Committee – who may be well advised to set up a separate small coordinating sub-group.
- It was felt that the commentaries we received from the several interviews should be checked for specific issues and should be noted as such and not be overly generalized. They should be prioritized taking note of the specifics. These then should be included in our recommendations identifying people responsible for following up /implementation and not letting the document therefore languish on the shelf and be forgotten: thus:
  - Conduct additional interviews
  - Summarize all interviews
  - Make recommendations
  - Prioritize/sequence the implementation
- We should also read Jack's task list and make possible corrections/modifications. Also to be included are input from the survey
- We then turned to Governance. We felt that the meeting with the Selectmen was useful; however we also observed that our commentaries were the result of input from the citizenry – to be expanded once the survey information is fully digested. What is important is to acknowledge that we cannot arrive at conclusions before conducting a full investigation and appropriate research.
- We need to be assured that the data we are receiving is reflective of the Town's views!
- How far can we go with this exercise? we are looking to COG for some input as well
- We would like to publish the results of the survey in the papers – but recognize that we need to receive authorization from the Steering Committee. PS will work on this.

- Immediate tasks:
  - C&H: interviewers of the different assets to review the minutes to ensure that all important comments are properly recorded: this task hopefully can be completed yet this week with any additional comments and corrections to be sent to PS by the end of the day Friday!
  - Survey: read Mark's preliminary summary and come up with questions re: the data which can then be followed up by Mark

Next meeting: We will meet next week on **Tuesday, 4/15** at 7:30 AM at the Library (to avoid the conflict with the 'Properties at Risk' meeting on Wednesday).