

**TOWN OF LINCOLN
MINUTES OF COMPREHENSIVE LONG RANGE PLAN
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Held at 2:00 PM on July 21, 2009

In the Donaldson Room, Lincoln Town Offices

PRESENT: Ken Hurd, Ken Bassett, Bryce Wolf, Gary Taylor, Dan Boynton, Peter Sugar, Bob Domnitz, Sara Mattes, Sarah Cannon Holden, Mark Whitehead, Tim Higgins, Angela Kearney, Catherine Perry

DISCUSSION OF PLAN CHAPTERS

Following its discussion on June 22nd, the Board of Selectmen has worked on providing sets of written comments, beginning with the Executive Summary and moving on to the topic chapters. Ken Hurd reported that the Planning Board met on July 7th to discuss the Plan. It firstly looked at the tone of commentary by the consultant and agreed that some of the wording needs to be revised to have a more measured or neutral tone; Dan Boynton offered to draft a set of editorial changes to address this issue. Secondly, the Planning Board reviewed the Executive Summary and the Land Use and Economic Development chapters in detail. Mr. Boynton provided copies of a version of the Executive Summary with mark-ups that attempt to address both the Selectmen's and the Planning Board's concerns.

The Steering Committee discussed the economic development issues with the Selectmen and Planning Board representatives and agreed:

- Goal ED2 should refer to economic development rather than mixed use and commercial development (agreed previously);
- In Goal ED2 wording should be added to clarify that the aim is to provide an additional revenue source to the Town;
- Recommendation ED 2.2 (Lincoln Station area) should be taken out from under this goal so that it stands alone; and
- The remainder of Goal ED2 should be put first as Goal ED1, and the current Goal ED1 (agriculture) put last.

The group then discussed the land use change process referred to in one of the Land Use goals and agreed:

- The criteria should be lettered rather than numbered to avoid the impression of a priority order; and
- It should be made clear that there may be trade-offs and not all the criteria may be satisfied. Ken Bassett agreed to supply suitable wording.

It further agreed that in Goal ED2.3 referring to new mixed or commercial uses, the wording should be to 'consider opportunities' rather than 'evaluate sites with potential'.

The commentary on 2 acre zoning was discussed. Mrs. Wolf agreed to propose a revised wording. It was noted that the date given (in more than one place) should be 1955 not 1954.

The paragraph on ‘predictable, fair decisions’ was discussed. It was agreed to de-emphasize predictability and word the paragraph to relate to the recommendations of an articulated process and consideration of minor changes to the zoning bylaw.

Sara Mattes suggested that it may be desirable to expand the discussion of agriculture now that the agricultural commission has begun work, including looking at constraints and incentives. It may be appropriate to include this in the land use section of the Executive Summary rather than the assets and resources section.

Sara Mattes agreed to supply additional text on matters relating to Hanscom.

A range of other small editorial changes to the Executive Summary were agreed:

- on p.14 in relation to group homes, delete ‘highly’;
- the best way to refer to the Braun –Elliott report and its date should be checked;
- on p.16, ‘Focusing Development in Existing Areas’ should be changed to ‘Adaptation and Reuse of Existing Development’;
- on p.23, the reference to the Groves should be deleted as it does not seem very logical;
- on p. 21, it is too sweeping to say that fiscal policy, land use policy and economic development policy are not inherently entwined;
- on p. 23 under Regionalism, the first three sentences should be deleted and Lincoln’s regional involvement reflected.

Dan Boynton offered to produce a revised version of the Executive Summary based on the preceding discussion, for use at the Planning Board hearing the same evening. The Planning Board has prepared a ‘tracked changes’ version of its proposed edits to the Land Use and Economic Development chapters. It was agreed that Ken Hurd and Bryce Wolf will work on the other chapters over the next two weeks with some input from the Selectmen.

There will be a need to check cross-references throughout the Plan as there have been changes to numbering of goals and recommendations including LU1, LU2 and the ED goals.

TIMETABLE TO COMPLETION

The timetable was discussed. Town Meeting is tentatively set for October 18th. The consultant will need time to format the document with graphics included, so the text needs to be finalized. There is a Planning Board meeting on August 11th but Mr. Domnitz will be away. The deadline may need to be clarified.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be on August 5th at 2:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Submitted by Catherine Perry

