

**MINUTES FOR
A VISION FOR EXETER
PILOT TEAM
TOWN OF EXETER, RHODE ISLAND
675 TEN ROD ROAD
EXETER, RI 02822
SEPTEMBER 24, 2008
7:00 P.M.**

MEETING LOCATION: Exeter Public Library
Program Room
773 Ten Rod Road, Exeter

ATTENDEES: Scott Millar, Tom Sawicky, Pati de Wardner, Frank DiGregorio, Susan Cerullo, Mike Cerullo, Dan Cotta, Joe Walsh, David Schweid, Susan Westa, Kevin Essington

CALL TO ORDER:

Scott Millar called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Susan Westa asked if there were any comments on the minutes from the last meeting, August 27. The minutes were accepted as is.

REVIEW SURVEY RESULTS

Susan Westa reviewed the survey responses with the team. Someone asked how many people completed the survey after the June workshop.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Peter Flinker reviewed the plans for the October public meeting. He presented an example of previous work he's done in Saratoga County N.Y. He presented their buildout analysis and the alternatives for balancing cultural/historic systems, natural systems and development.

Peter then presented the chip game. The game board will be a map of the town overlain with a grid. The chips are game pieces that represent categories of zoning – different types of land uses and densities. All of this will be clearly laid out up front at the workshop. The game will be an educational opportunity for participants to understand the different trade offs involved in land use planning and regulation. Award stickers will be presented to groups that identify “smart growth solutions”. Key pad polling will be used to further explore different options. Steve Mullen will also analyze the chip game results with Community Viz – software that analyzes impacts of different options.

Peter asked for input on the factors considered for the buildout, including constraints and natural resources. Scott Millar noted that Peter's suggestions are a logical start

and asked that hydric soils be included. Frank D. said this information will be useful for the town plan. Joe Walsh noted that limiting road building would limit development. Peter also noted that impacts of new development are not always clear cut. For example, commercial development brings in new tax revenue, however, it may also significantly impact roads and the value of commercial development depreciates over time. Scott suggested that folks review the Barnstable Study that is posted on the Borderlands website.

Peter also reviewed what impacts Community Viz can analyze. He noted that Phase II of this project may involve a more in-depth analysis of fiscal impacts and impacts on heart and soul resources. Peter asked folks to get him comments within one week.

Scott Millar asked how to accommodate the low/mod income housing act and density bonuses allowed. The state requires 10% affordable housing and Exeter has about 1%.

WORKSHOP OUTREACH

Scott asked that a bulleted summary of the exercises and the goals of the meeting – be available at the workshop. Peter and Kevin will put this together. The group asked about press – articles and calendars. Susan will work on this. Susan also noted that the Town Clerk is printing 1000 flyers next week for folks to disseminate. Sue Cerullo needs about 600 for the schools.

HIGHSCHOOL PROJECT

Mike Cerullo said that 3 or 4 teachers are interested in this project, including a marketing teacher, Social Studies, computer & media. They talked about integrating the online survey, interviews/oral histories and senior projects.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEM

Upcoming pilot team meetings
- November 19
- December 10

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

The next meeting will be October 21, 2008 at the Exeter Library 7pm