



**BORDERLANDS  
VILLAGE INNOVATION  
PILOT TEAM MEETING**

**Killingly Town Hall  
Room 102  
February 6, 2008, 7 PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Janice Thurlow Co-Chair, Peggy Weaver, Bruce Weaver, Richard Evans, Holly Shaw, Ed Eramian, Virge Lorents, Ralph Chartier, Eldon Griffiths, Michael Green, Carol Auer, Craig Goff, Donna Bronwell, Ryan Oppert, Anthony Simpson, Brad Gauthier, Joyce Ricci

Absent with notification: Dale Desmarais  
Staff: Linda Walden, Elsie Bisset, Susan Westa

- Janice Thurlow called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM
- ***Overview of Work Plan*** – Sue Westa asked the team if and how they wanted to refine the project from the original application. Do they want to focus on Dayville and Danielson and the mills or on the whole community and the relationship of rural areas to the growth centers? Linda Walden provided background on the application process and original submittals. Discussion ensued among the team. Virge Lorents said to keep the Plan of Conservation and Development's framework in mind: west of I-395 generally would be growth areas due to infrastructure and east of I-395 would generally remain more rural. Brad Gauthier wants residents to appreciate Killingly's resources and features. Janice Thurlow asked the team whether they want to focus on the community as a whole versus one specific corridor. Sue Westa said the whole town is probably beyond the scope of this project but the team can focus in on an actual implementation project that can continue beyond Borderlands. Consensus items were: focusing on village centers for growth, the "how" of protecting other areas (zoning, ordinances and other techniques), sustainability as a core theme, and education of residents on what Killingly is – amenities, resources and features. The team was reminded that we are at the first step – the visioning phase and the consultants will be assisting us with the outreach and input details.



- **Discussion of Consultant Presentations** – To begin the discussion, a straw vote was taken regarding the preferred vendor. Dodson, Foresee and CBI = 11 votes; Cecil Group and Donald Powers Arch.= 5 votes. Various team members explained what they liked about each presentation.
- Peggy Weaver: preferred the variety of models Cecil presented – they were tailored to specifics and not all the same as Dodson’s were. She liked the idea that Cecil will take information, process it and then provide feedback asking the client if they were understanding the client correctly. She did not get the same feel with Dodson.
  - Anthony Simpson: the team will control the consultant – it doesn’t matter who is chosen
  - Holly Shaw: Dodson has a more democratic way of conducting business. They are more rural, Cecil more urban.
  - Virge Lorents: Cecil’s ideas of small places were Providence and Stamford. Their response to the RFQ was large and academic. The communication process will be important and Dodson’s writing was simpler, more straightforward. They had a dynamic approach. We are the visionaries and the consultants will be the tools.
  - Donna Bronwell: preferred the first group (Dodson). They have a small town background, Ashfield, MA and more personal style.
  - Brad Gauthier: liked the first group (Dodson) but chose the second (Cecil) as he believes they will be more persuasive to Killingly residents.
  - Mike Green: the consultants role will be to listen for the visioning not persuade us
  - Craig Goff: chose Dodson but didn't like either
  - Janice Thurlow, Joyce Ricci, Bruce Weaver and Peggy Weaver: all thought the CBI representative of the Dodson presentation was the better one for the visioning process

Many of the Cecil supporters expressed they would be comfortable working with Dodson

- **Select Consultant** – Bruce Weaver moved to show approval and acceptance of Proposal #1 (Dodson). Peggy Weaver seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Sue Westa revealed that Exeter had also chosen Dodson. They have had past experience with them and the consultant will go above and beyond the scope of



work. There is an upcoming Borderlands Advisory Group conference call and the selected consultant will be announced publicly following that.

It was mentioned that the Plan of Conservation and Development Committee is expected to finish its work shortly and that the Plan will be a good information tool. The Borderlands team will be updated on the Plan's progress.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 28, 2008 at 7 PM here in Town Hall in the Town Meeting Room.**

Adjournment: At 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Linda Walden, Director of Planning and Development  
Recording Clerk