

November 24, 2023 6:00pm Master Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Larry Siegel, Alan Bell, Kristen Riley, Christine McKenna, Michelle Hayward, John Harris

Ian Bresnahan is attending as a guest to consider joining the MPC.

Alan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Kristen made a motion to approve the minutes of last month's meeting, Michelle 2nd and all were in favor.

Committee Organizational business:

Alan mentioned Mark Terry, the chair of the power coalition would be a good person to invite to our meeting or to attend their upcoming January meeting.

We had a lengthy discussion about how to handle quorums and what we should do if we have regular members who are not able to attend multiple meetings in a row. Alan suggested going to an alternate structure for those members so we always have a voting body. We tabled this to discuss more at our January meeting.

Discussion

We discussed appointing a social media person or guru to keep a presence for us online so people were aware of what was going on.

We talked for a long time about how to collect data and the entire committee is in agreement that we need to do better than the 2016 master plan because it only had 132 responses. We talked about investing in some survey software that has the ability to track IP addresses so one person cannot skew the data by filling it out many times. We discussed survey monkey, google forms and microsoft forms.

Christine suggested polling the below survey at elections coming up and town meeting. Christine made a motion to create a preliminary survey and gather data using her iPad at the upcoming events Kristen 2nd and all were in favor of this survey.

March 12th Town Elections

March 13th Town Meeting

January 6th School Board meeting

NH primary elections (need volunteers that day)

(working questions can be altered slightly with the meaning remaining the same)

1. For the future of Westmoreland what 3 subjects are most important to you? Choose 3

-Land Use

-Housing

-Transportation

-Utility and Public service

-Community Facilities

-Recreation

-Natural Resources

-Economic Development

-Population

- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Education
- Other (fill in the blank in less than 15 characters)

2. What is the best method to contact you to make sure your voice is heard?

- postal mail
- email
- in person (door to door)
- by phone call
- text message
- Other (fill in the blank in less than 15 characters)

3. Can you provide your email and phone number for us send you a link to our future surveys?

John made a motion to schedule a working meeting for January 9th to review surveys of surrounding towns and really work through our plan to gather data from Westmoreland. Emily 2nd, all were in favor and that meeting will be Jan 9th from 6pm-730pm

Larry called for the meeting to close at 7:04pm and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned Next meeting is scheduled for January 9th at 6pm at the town hall.