

***Town of York ~ Village Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes ~ April 2, 2015  
York Public Library – Wheeler Room***

***Present:*** Ron McAllister, Toni DeSoto, Chris Hartwell, Joel Lefever, Jodi Merrill, Robert Palmer,  
Dylan Smith, Pete Smith, Scott Stevens, Lew Stowe

***Absent:*** Stu Dawson, Gloria Gustafson, Dean Lessard

***Guests:*** Denis Lachman – TDRC

1. Chairman Ron McAllister called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.
2. Meeting minutes for March 19<sup>th</sup> were approved with a minor correction.
3. Ron announced the sad news that John Parson’s mother, Regina has passed away. She will be missed by many in our community.
4. Denis started the meeting noting that draft #3 (90% complete) of the Village Master Plan (VMP) is almost ready for the editing committee to apply their comments and suggested revisions, with a target of April 20<sup>th</sup> for providing the final Master Plan to the BOS for their consideration and feedback.
5. The immediate goal is for the BOS to approve forwarding the VMP to the Planning Board with a recommendation to incorporate it into the Comprehensive Plan as an amendment.
6. Once that has been done, the next step is for our committee to work with TDRC to clarify and document the next (schematic design) phase, including cost.
7. Dylan clarified that the Comp Plan amendment will exist as a “reference” to the VMP in Volume 1.
8. Robert pointed out that following the May election there will be two new Selectmen.
9. Denis continued by reviewing draft #3 with the committee. First, he walked through the condensed “executive overview” of the VMP which now concludes with a few pages at the end to visualize what the village might look like 25-50 years in the future. One of these drawings stimulated a lively discussion around the future of the town hall.
10. Continuing with the review, Denis walked through each of the “chapters” with mostly very positive reactions from members of the group, who also provided several ideas for additions or revisions.
11. During a discussion on financial budgeting, Denis emphasized that this project does not lend itself to “phasing” due to the complexities of road alignment and related infrastructure. The committee discussed the overall issue of capital spending in the Town of York and what needs to be done to develop support from the voters.
12. Members of the editing work group asked for clarification of process, timing, and methods.
13. Denis warned that to make all this happen, there may be additional embedded costs for an Economic Development Director – someone to write grant applications, manage funding strategy, etc.
14. Wrap-up comments regarding the VMP draft were very positive.
15. Our next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> in the Wheeler Room at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Smith, Secretary