

***Town of York ~ Village Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes ~ January 7, 2016  
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

***Present:*** Ron McAllister, Toni DeSoto, Gloria Gustafson, Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard,  
Steve Pelletier, Scott Stevens, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith, Lew Stowe

***Absent:*** Stu Dawson, Joel Lefever, Robert Palmer,

***Guest:***

1. Chairman Ron McAllister called the meeting to order at 8:33am.
2. Meeting minutes for December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> were approved with minor corrections.
3. Lew started off the meeting noting that there was a big article in the paper about Cumberland Farm and their current plans for expansion. He plans to keep in contact with them as our project goes forward.
4. Dean brought the group up-to-date on the agreements between the town and the DOT which he believes will work out well going forward. Another positive thing is that our KATCS project was listed on the latest DOT project list.
5. Ron noted that the town manager asked for confirmation of our proposed capital funding requests that will go on the ballot in May. Further, he asked that we write the referendum language for those warrant items which must be submitted by early March. Dylan suggested that we use recent "transportation" bond requests as a model for our request language.
6. Dean and Scott volunteered to write an initial draft of the referendum language (both Warrant Article and Statement of Fact) for both funding requests, after which the rest of the committee can review and update as needed.
7. Dean pointed out that our on-going schedule will be influenced significantly by DOT's schedule.
8. Dylan reported that the Planning Board decided to remove two lots from the proposed York Village Zone in response to concerns that they are strictly residential and historic in nature. Also, the elderly housing area on the south side of York Street was removed as being inappropriate for the new zone. In addition, an exception was added to exclude the hospital from the 7,000 square foot maximum building footprint constraint in the dimensional requirements.
9. Chris provided an overview of plans for promoting the village revitalization in preparation for the upcoming referendum. She reviewed handouts that she put together from Regina's latest materials which everyone should use when visiting the stakeholders. She also plans to create posters and flyers to place around town and hopes that ultimately, we can do a mailing to every household in town. Pete suggested that we might check with the School District to see if we could include something in their annual voters pamphlet which they send to every household prior to the May election.
10. The group agreed that it would be very useful to add the graphics provided by Lew which show the village from different perspectives with the overhead wiring and poles removed.
11. Ron noted that we usually make a presentation to the BOS twice a year on the status of the village revitalization project. We should ask to be on the agenda on March 28th, which is the last meeting before they do their preference votes on proposed warrant items.

12. Pete expressed concern about including statistics/numbers on documents we publish in that, if we do, the numbers have to be accurate and are subject to debate. For example, details about parking availability should be stated as generalities and estimates.
13. Four key points that we should cover in this public outreach are: funding, road alignment, monument location, and "convenient" parking.
14. An active discussion ensued regarding the best strategy for placing (numbering) warrant items on the ballot to enhance the voters understanding and acceptance of our project components.
15. Our next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40am

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Peter Smith, Secretary*