

***Town of York ~ Village Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes ~ February 18, 2016  
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

***Present: Ron McAllister, Stu Dawson, Toni DeSoto, Gloria Gustafson, Joel Lefever,  
Robert Palmer, Steve Pelletier, Scott Stevens, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith, Lew Stowe***

***Absent: Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard***

***Guest: David Chase***

1. Chairman Ron McAllister called the meeting to order at 8:32am.
2. Meeting minutes for February 4<sup>th</sup> were approved as written.
3. Ron noted that the BOS has decided to leave the Hodgin Lot on the Capital Plan for 2018.
4. Lew announced that he was still in contact with Cumberland Farms and Bank of America representatives regarding their involvement in the proposed revitalization. He is working on a plan for Cumberland Farms to attend one of our upcoming meetings to review their plans.
5. Ron reviewed his latest draft of the language for our two warrant articles and shared concerns that the Town Manager has about the article asking for \$400k in operating expenses as matching money related to the KATCS funding. He has suggested that the article be changed to ask the voters to approve setting up bonds that will be issued in multiple phases as the matching money is needed.
6. It was suggested that the first article and its Statement of Fact should not include too much detail, especially about the phasing. Something simple like "multi-year phasing" would be enough. The second article should also be simplified to state that "the relocation of above-ground is integral to the success of the village improvements."
7. The group debated about whether there should be two articles in the warrant or whether they should be consolidated into one. A straw poll of the committee in favored leaving it as two.
8. Ron, Chris and David Chase will work together to redraft the articles based on today's comments.
9. Robert expressed his concern that, for the revitalization to be a success, the village zoning changes need to be approved and an economic development program should be put in place.
10. Ron suggested that it would be useful for us to solicit support from others beside village businesses and residents. There are a number of publicly recognized York citizens who's positive opinions would be very helpful to our cause. For example, this group might include Mary Andrews, Kinley Gregg, Helen Rollins, Ronny Nowell, and Tracey Jackson-McCarthy. He wondered if we should organize an effort to contact these people and any others to ask for their support.
11. Several members of the committee reported on their visits with village merchants and owners. Only a few contacts have been made so far and most of the feedback was fairly positive and typically included concerns about parking.
12. FYI - The current balance in our Friends of York Village account is \$1,850.00.
13. Our next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 am

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Peter Smith, Secretary***