

***Town of York ~ Village Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes ~ May 19, 2016  
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

***Present:*** Ron McAllister, Stu Dawson, Toni DeSoto, Gloria Gustafson, Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard,  
Robert Palmer, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith, Scott Stevens, Lew Stowe

***Absent:*** Joel Lefever, Steve Pelletier

***Guest:*** David Chase, Ted Little

**NOTE:**

*Article #60 voting results - 1,970 Yes (54.8%) vs. 1,658 No (45.2%) 342 more yes than no (21%)*

1. Chairman Ron McAllister called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.
2. Meeting minutes for May 5<sup>th</sup> were approved as written.
3. The committee discussed recent publicity and community responses relative to the upcoming May election. The prevailing opinion is that our warrant article will pass.
4. One key issue for opponents to Article #60 is ownership of land that our master plan shows as the proposed new location for the monument. Dylan and Dean once again clarified the concept of "prescriptive easement" that insures that the surface of this land can continue as public space.
5. Dean reported on the latest status from the DoT as well as very satisfactory results from recent test borings in the village. The DoT is requesting another abutter meeting prior to proceeding much further with the planning.
6. Friends of York Village reported that all of the yard signs have been posted around town. On voting day, several of these signs will be relocated to the high school grounds for more visibility. David suggested that committee members continue to clarify the misunderstandings that have been evident during this campaign. Assuming a positive outcome at the polls, he further suggests that we continue to do so going forward.
7. Ron prompted everyone on the committee to move forward after the vote with a very positive attitude, avoiding any further debates about negative perspectives that have been put forth during the campaign.
8. Ron pointed out that our next meeting is likely to be the last meeting of the VSC as it is currently constituted.
9. The group discussed the opportunity for re-establishing itself as a "steering" committee partially populated by members of our current committee along with some "new blood." It was noted that it would be short-sighted if the town were to form a whole new group thus losing the experience and knowledge inherent in our current group.
10. Robert suggested that we should formally propose the composition and mission of any new committee to the BoS shortly after the May vote. Perhaps this new group should include members from Parks & Rec., the garden clubs, Cycle York, and local business owners, etc.
11. Our next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 am

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Smith, Secretary