



Acton 2020 Committee
Minutes
December 19, 2012 – 7:00 PM
Acton Town Hall, Room 121

1. Kristen Domurad-Guichard
2. Kat Hudson
3. Celia Kent
4. Mike Shailer
5. Maryanne
6. Charlie Mercier
7. Margaret Busse
8. John Sonner
9. Roland Bartl

I. ***Approve minutes from 11-27-12 meeting*** (5 min)
No minutes to approve.

II. ***Agree on end of year committee summary*** (10 min) [7:15 –7:30]
Comments were made, and Margaret will make changes and send it to Kristina Joyce.

III. ***Update from liaisons - ripe apple items*** (30 min) [7:30-8:10]
Margaret, Kristen and Roland met with Steve Ledoux (town manager) to talk about regionalization (item #7.1.2.1). Steve is very interested and would like to put items related to it on the priority list, but first he needs to know that the BOS agree with the prioritization of this. John said that this will be a topic for Board of Selectmen on the Budget meeting coming up (jan 14th). The items discussed with Steve included:

1. Sharing emergency 911 dispatch centers. Currently each town in MA has one, and this could be reduced with large savings. Examples of more regionalized dispatch centers include Maryland which has one for the entire state, or California which has two for the entire state. There has already been some forward movement with this, as a feasibility study has already been made for Action providing services to 8 local. It showed little savings in the short term as moneys were needed for the conversion, but that savings could be made in the long term.
2. HR services: could regionalize town HR services for civil services.
3. Inspectional services: (Building inspector). Acton has some additional codes that other towns don't have. Even so, this still could be shared with one or two towns sharing the same inspectors
4. Veteran benefits. Since the town has over 10k people, by MA law, we have to have someone providing veteran services. But because of Acton's makeup, we only have around eight folks that that person supports. Would

be a good service to share with other towns, and Sudbury has already contacted us to see if we could work together.

5. North Acton fire station: We could possibly work with Westford instead of creating a new fire station. A possibility, but Westford response times are not as quick as Acton, so the thought might be to build a new station in Acton, but share services with Westford.
6. Low income housing: We are already working with Sudbury, and could expand this.
7. Septic Systems/Title V: There already is a regionalization of Title5 (septic stuff), but it does not extend to Acton. (the current regionalized group is not as stringent as Actions services, so we might not want to join that group, but we could group with other towns.

Margaret wants all updates in by (roughly) Jan 5th. (For the next meeting on the 9th)

IV. ***Review Kelley's Corner capital request strategy*** (60 min) [8:10-9:05]

a. ***Feedback from Planning Board and EDC***

Margaret presented to the planning board (with Mike), and their reaction was positive

- The planning board would like to understand the sequence of what should happen (how it was done in other towns)
- We should increase the level of visualization in the request, before going to town meeting
- Jeff Clymer (planning board member) would be interesting in coming meetings to help with this.

Margaret presented (with Mike and Celia) to the EDC

- The EDC wanted a study to show how our proposal would stimulate business
- They thought we were too ahead of our self.
- They support the idea, but want more work on the research. (How would it help the economy of the town, and how can we demonstrate its benefit.)
- We should be clearer about what we have control over and what we do not.
- They really want to understand what the sequence is for all the steps

b. ***Discuss revising of presentation***

- The current document needs to be reworked for the FinCom meeting (which will be on the Jan 8th – before our next meeting)

c. ***Do we need to form a special KC committee now?***

- We all agreed that creating a committee would be best, but thought it very difficult seeing the challenges staffing the current committee.
- If possible, we should bring in people with real estate development experience in addition to our current team.
- Possibly create a group of stake holders, but not a full blown committee.

V. ***Agree on next steps*** (15 min) [9:05-9:55]

a. Agree on revised presentation

- Worked on the timeline of the work to be done.
- What stages (phases) and what tasks need to be done and when.
- Need to point out that many of the tasks need to be done at the same time so that the results from each can be used by the others.
- Should visualize this with a 5-10 line Gantt chart
- Looked at some slides that we could remove

b. Get website content to Mike

- We will get mikes updates by the 5th

c. Ripe apple next steps?

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VI. ***Administrative Update*** (5 min) [9:55-10:00]

- In the next meeting we will talk about (a) feedback from FinCom Meeting (from the night before), will discuss (b) the website, and then (c) prepare for the BOS meeting.