



City Center Project Steering Committee
Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.
The Visitor's Center
14 North Street, Claremont, NH

Minutes
Approved 1/3/13

I. Roll Call

Present: Marty Davis, Jason Farrell, Tom Rock, David Putnam, Robert Tatro, David Messier, Kristin Kenniston, William Greenrose, Victor Bergeron, James Feleen

Absent: Keith Raymond ,Gary Trottier

Staff: Nancy Merrill, Tracey Thibault, Katrina Spaulding

II. Meeting Minutes

- Approve minutes of November 29, 2011

Motion: to approve the meeting minutes subject to revisions at the January meeting

Made By: Mr. Robert Tatro **Second:** Mr. Tom Rock **Vote:** Unanimous

III. Old Business

- Report on Meeting with Dwayne Marsh from December 7, 2011

Dwayne Marsh is the H.U.D. representative from Washington, D.C. He visited in Claremont on December 7th. Nancy Merrill felt the highlight of his visit was the drive around the project area, demonstrating the different kinds of streets and problem areas. Dwayne did meet with a few of the committee members. David Putnam thought it was beneficial to have the support of HUD and the recognition as a Preferred Sustainability Status Holder. Agreed with by Tom Rock, this will in the long run be great for Claremont as if done correctly, the grant opportunities will arise once again.

- Steering Committee – Idea Exchange

A copy of the City Zoning Ordinance for the B-1 Zoning District was distributed to the committee members. There was some confusion about what the committee was responsible for deciding. Tracey Thibault said there are 10 Zones in the City Center and

perhaps it would be easier to think with a “clean slate” as if there weren’t any zones in the downtown area and start with a fresh approach.

Tracey said there are several types of zoning choices such as; Euclidean, Form Based, and Overlay styles. The existing Zoning for the City of Claremont was created in 1976.

Tracey mentioned when thinking about Form Based code, the aspects of Physical, and visual evaluations are applied.

The committee asked for more information regarding form based code to be able to have a better understanding of what is expected.

David Putnam thought it would be a good idea to have the current zoning handy, the results of the survey, as well as information on form based code. It was explained the current code is on-line.

Bob Tatro mentioned it would be a wise idea to clarify what type of character the community wanted to attract for future uses.

The Committee did a brainstorming exercise to generate a list of what ideally they would like to see in the City Center.

Tracey’s Notes: CCCP Steering Committee “Wish List”

- Change the perception of Claremont by others. Find a way to show the positives of the community and change the negative feeds to the perception.
- Vital City Center for business and Residents (what used to be Mixed Use) Ease of the process to achieve a return of investment.
- Re-attract the Middle Class to a user/pedestrian friendly City Center (the entirety of the City Center not just the core)
- Move Cultural/Shopping/Dining opportunities to draw people to the core of the City Center. Find a place for an Old Time Theater and/or place the Historical Society in the old Pleasant Restaurant.
- Pleasant Street remodeled as a “Complete Street.”
- Develop Pedestrian Malls in conjunction with Truck Routes.
- Construct a Parking garage close to the amenities of Pleasant and Broad Streets.
- Hire a City Architect for Code/Design review. Allow for a process for Master Plans for development proposals.

- Promote the development of a Cultural Campus, “Claremont’s North End,” including the Library, City Hall, Opera House, and the Post Office.

Initial Pros and Cons of a Form Based Code

Con: A single use can take over.

Con: Administrator must think outside the box.

Pro: Emphasis is on the site.

Pro: Uninterrupted Architectural development patterns.

Pro: Broader Definitions.

Pro: Promotes investment to comply with the Code.

IV. New Business

V. Other

VI. Adjourn

Motion: To Adjourn

Made By: Mr. David Messier **Second:** Mr. William Greenrose **Vote:** Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by, Katrina Spaulding