

## 8/20/07-Master Plan Meeting-Hilton Senior Center, 6:30-8:30

**Attendees:** Brenda Chouinard, Berenice McLaughlin, Jerri Klima, Bobbi Klima, Bev Gulazian, John Haggerty, Jackie Haggerty, Pat Beevers, Sue Brown, Leah Hill, Barbara Souther, Rick Taintor, Frank Schaeffer, Larry O'Brien

Sue Brown passed out the Draft Existing Conditions. 6 of the 8 sections of the Master Plan are complete, waiting on Land-Use and Economic Development. Each section is color-coded and is a "stand-alone" section. Public is requested to write comments on the document and return by September 17 (a master plan meeting). People can review each section or just any section of interest to them. Sue will supply town with electronic copy to put online.

Land & People-history of town & demographics;

Housing-info from the Housing Plan, with updated statistics;

Community Services & Facilities-covers general government, police, fire, library, COA, water, sewer, schools, boards...;

Transportation & Circulation-DPW & police info, info from MVPC, Harbor Plan, Community Dev. Plan, RailTrail;

Natural & Cultural Resources-Marshes, beaches, wetlands, -Open space plan & cultural inventory;

Open Space & Rec-Info from Open Space Plan & Harbor Plan.

Leah will send out e-mail re. what sub-committee each person is on, and the lead on each section will rally the group prior to the due date of September 17. Jerry recommends giving copies to Town Manager, Selectmen, Planning Board as well as different boards for their review.

Salisbury Square-New Zoning, Town Green, Municipal Buildings

Questions to be answered:

- What would make Salisbury Square unique and memorable?
- What are Salisbury Square's most important assets?
- What type of businesses would be viable and are desirable in Salisbury Square?
- What needs to be done to protect & enhance the residential neighborhoods of Salisbury Square?

## TRAFFIC

Traffic a major issue in the Square: There is a Square Traffic Study, Jerry has given to Lisa to give to consultants. Alternative 1-New road to south of 110 to "skirt the marsh". Alternative 2-New road north of 110. Alternative 3-Bridge/Tunnel over Salisbury Square. Daily problems with people going wrong way down School Street. Catch-22, Square not pedestrian-friendly, as we were told by DPW, need high pedestrian numbers to get bigger pedestrian projects, but people afraid to walk downtown.

## TOWN COMMON

Underutilized asset, needs better landscaping plan. Need more activities on the common. Lack of parking makes it more difficult. What events should be held there? Connect more with the library, connect town common with library feasibility plan. Bandstand in town common, "New England" items. Library expansion/parking could take park land, but parking could also be just for common. Library is a "wi-fi" zone, reaches the park. Berenice-who maintains the land? DPW currently maintains. Garden Club already maintains some land in front of library, could extend? Once there are more businesses in the Square, could create a Salisbury Square Business District. Idea of adding an atrium to the library on the common. Farmer's Market would be great at Salisbury Square. Land at Historical Society could be good site as well, enough land for more parking.

## REDEVELOPMENT/NEW ZONING

Upkeep is not enforced, litter on properties. Cleaning up some sites, some existing sites are eyesores, dangerous parking lots. Rezoning of the Square-encourages redevelopment of various sites in town, will hopefully change underutilized sites. Cigarette butts and litter-environmental concerns. Public awareness campaign-end litter in Salisbury. Chamber of Commerce could focus on litter. Barrels outside of stores. Look towards schools-have them make signs, signs stating "tax dollars at work" having to clean up litter. Square never going to be pedestrian friendly until traffic pattern changed. Can anything be done to get the State to change traffic pattern? Start a petition, via selectmen, get item on TIP. Look at Wellesley and Route 16. Businesses want to be in heavy traffic areas and don't want to encourage heavier traffic on side residential roads. Questioned whether more interest in square zoning. Pharmacy in the permitting stage, other businesses may be waiting until that decided. Commented that people are interested in 2-family option.

## ZONING IN OTHER AREAS

People in other areas are also interested in changing zoning to allow for 2-families, versus going to ZBA for variances.

Rings Island zoning doesn't reflect current conditions, not in compliance with current zoning. Change zoning to reflect history and current conditions. Encouraging Density! Salisbury Square new zoning could be applied to Rings Island, should use those regs for Rings Island.

## BUSINESSES IN THE SQUARE

Uses of interest include restaurant, green grocer, bakery (idea mentioned-Anna Rose's Bakery-owners are residents of Salisbury, start a satellite store...), a place where you would like to go-DESTINATION, gift shop. Currently, nothing really compelling in the Square other than a few uses. Used to be 3 grocery stores in Square, tough to compete with larger stores. Look at Newbury Butchery, great example. Vacant sites are in Square. Any thought to a municipal parking lot? Bank happy with its location.

Need more involvement in Square-neighborhood watches.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15. Next meeting **September 17**, to discuss the visioning process (which will be September 29). Edits of the existing conditions draft also due by that date, or sooner to the Planning Department.