

Nicole Roberts

From: Kyle Bradley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 1:27 PM
To: Nicole Roberts; Matt Marro
Subject: Fwd: Winchendon Ch 61 Public Hearing Strategy Session Friday at 2pm

Hi, Nicole,

Could you please put the body of this email on our next agenda for discussion. There is a lot of important stuff in here that we need to discuss as a board and come up with some answers for the MPIC. This may be repetitive, but I don't believe we've made much progress on any of these Strategy items in a formal way for presentation to the MPIC or BOS. I'd like to see if we can get Strategy LU 5.1 assigned to the Planning Board or a joint venture between ConCom and the Planning Board.

Thank you,

Kyle

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Re: Winchendon Ch 61 Public Hearing Strategy Session Friday at 2pm

Date:Sat, 18 Nov 2023 19:17:50 -0500

From:Jill Sackett <[REDACTED]>

To:Elaine Mroz <[REDACTED]>, Carolyn Sellars <[REDACTED]>, Russ Gaulin <[REDACTED]>, M.J. Galat <[REDACTED]>, chuck tarleton <[REDACTED]>, Inanna Arthen <[REDACTED]>, Lisa Hunt <[REDACTED]>, Tracy Gambill <[REDACTED]>, Frederick Sellars <[REDACTED]>, Anna Wilkins <[REDACTED]>, David Kotker <[REDACTED]>, Sarah Wells <[REDACTED]>, Jane Lapointe <[REDACTED]>

CC:Kyle Bradley <[REDACTED]>, Erika Eitland <[REDACTED]>, guy Corbosiero <[REDACTED]>, Nikki Nickerson <[REDACTED]>, Miranda Jennings <[REDACTED]>, Amanda Phillips <[REDACTED]>, Wolski, Joseph <[REDACTED]>

Greetings All,

Inanna let me know that you folks were asking about my attendance at yesterday's meeting that was convened to discuss the troubling development of a giant solar field in northeast Winchendon. You are seeking some input from the Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC).

MPIC's primary responsibility is to coordinate and monitor implementation of the Master Plan by those parties who have been assigned Lead and Contributor roles. There are several parts of the Master Plan that relate to this topic. Those parts, and the assigned Lead parties are as follows:

Goal LU 1: Identify areas in town suitable for expanded or new commercial, industrial or solar development and encourage compact, mixed-use development in downtown Winchendon.

Strategy LU 1.1: Hold a public meeting where boards, committees, departments and the public get together to brainstorm ideas.

Assigned to BOS

Goal LU 3: Preserve wildlife and plant habitats and natural resources, and protect environmentally sensitive areas (OSRP Goal #3)

Strategy LU 3.1: Consider partnerships with conservation organizations such as Mass Audubon, North County Land Trust & Mt. Grace.

Assigned to Conservation Commission

Strategy LU 3.3: Identify and prioritize currently undeveloped focus areas and parcels for protection based on size, connectivity to existing protected lands, and bio-diversity (OSRP Obj. #1)

Assigned to Conservation Commission

Strategy LU 3.4: Promote and institute land management practices to protect rare species and encourage an abundance of plant and animal populations (OSRP Obj. #2)

Assigned to Conservation Commission

Strategy LU 3.5: Educate the community to increase awareness of the value of the town's natural resources (OSRP Obj. #3)

Assigned to Conservation Commission

Goal LU 5: Enhance efforts for the acquisition, protection and maintenance of open space and recreation lands (OSRP Goal #7)

Strategy LU 5.1: Prioritize acquisition needs (OSRP Obj. #1)

Assigned to Conservation Commission

I recommend you reach out to the Conservation Commission as they have a number of Master Plan-related reasons to work on this time-sensitive issue. I did not see anyone from the Con Comm in your email so I am copying Chair Kyle Bradley here. If Con Comm is unable to work on these issues they should bring this to the MPIC's attention and as facilitators we would work to get some support for them, or at least highlight the lack of bandwidth.

It's also noteworthy that the BOS is chartered to hold a Public Meeting to discuss Land Use, including solar fields, and they could be reminded of this as you work to get a Public Hearing scheduled for this topic.

The next meeting of the MPIC is Tuesday, November 28. This falls after the BOS meeting on Monday, November 27. If there is anything you would like added to the MPIC agenda, please let me know ASAP so I can get it added.

I am on vacation the week of November 27 and unable to attend the BOS meeting. I'll be running the November 28 MPIC meeting virtually.

Personally, I sincerely hope you can make progress towards the transfer of the Rights of First Refusal. If you'd like to discuss further, please contact me via email or at [REDACTED].

Best wishes,
Jill Sackett
Chair, MPIC

On Nov 15, 2023, at 3:13 PM, Elaine Mroz [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Everyone -

Thanks to those of you who were able to come to Monday night's BOS meeting. Even though the Ch 61 issue wasn't on the formal agenda, we were able to convey the urgency and importance of this opportunity to members of the Select Board and to Bill McKinney (interim town manager, who was named permanent town manager later that night). They committed to have discussion of this as an agenda item on November 27, including time for public comment. It is possible that they will decide sometime before then to open the required public hearing on that night - at least 48 hours' notice is required for that.

Mount Grace has asked to meet with people who may be interested in attending any scheduled meeting/hearing to share ideas about strategy and talking points. Jane has reserved the Trustee Room at the library from 2-4pm this Friday November 17. Sarah Wells, Aaron Nelson and Dave Kotker of Mount Grace are copied here. I think all three of them plan to attend.

If you can't make the meeting but want to stay up to date, please let me know.

Thanks for your help!

Elaine Mroz
[REDACTED]