

MINUTES
New England District Committee
Sept. 28, 2004
(Unapproved)

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Communications: It was noted that all stakeholder organizations (13) identified at the August meeting and Weare Center residents (27) subsequently identified were invited to the September meeting.

Core Committee Membership: The size of the core (voting) committee was discussed, and the consensus was that we would attempt to fix the core group at about twenty (20) members. With the addition of Chuck Metcalf, Bruce Clements, Brian McDonald, Gene Bilodeau, Bill Johnson, and Bob Nelson, the core committee now has 18 members.

Background: Paul Doshier presented a brief history of the events that are behind the organization of the New England District Committee. He noted that in the Plan NH project several years ago, the Master Plan survey completed in October, 2003 and the Weare Community Profile conducted in May, 2004, the participating citizens of Weare expressed a strong interest in seeing Weare Center developed into a more attractive and distinct town center. An action group was formed and was recognized by the Board of Selectmen in August, 2004 as an official committee of the town.

Project Scope: Paul Doshier and Tom Clow explained that the scope of the project for purposes of committee discussions would include the town-owned properties (Stone Building, Library, old Fire Station, Town Hall, Town Offices, Gazebo) and the Weare Middle School, including athletic fields.

This led to a further discussion of the scope and precipitated a discussion of the proposed appropriation of \$30,000 to the Government Building Fund by the Selectmen to study the potential uses and probable costs associated with the future use of all Middle School buildings and the Town Offices building. Concern was expressed that the Selectmen would undertake the study before the work of the committee was finished and without committee input. Heleen Kurk assured the committee that this was not the intent of the Selectmen.

Developing Our Vision of Weare's Town Center: Paul Doshier and Tom Clow conducted a brainstorming session about our vision for Weare Center in which the committee and other residents present at the meeting worked together to develop the following three lists:

Things, Elements, Facilities Ideally Wanted in Weare Center (by priority)

Town Offices (10)
Community Center – All Ages (8)
Green Space (8)
Sidewalks/Traffic Controls (5)
Ball Fields (4)
Parking Lots-Landscaped (3)
Shopping (Retail) (3)
Restaurant (3)
Recreational Facility-Playground/Gym (2)
Office Buildings (2)
Accessible Center Store (1)
Library (1)
Bathrooms (1)
Senior Center (1)
Senior Housing (1)
Crafts/Artisans (1)
Health Clinic (1)

Things, Elements, Facilities to be Preserved in Weare Center (by priority)

Stone Building (10)
Library (8)
Town Offices (old High School) (6)
Gazebo/Park (6)
Town Hall (complex) (6)
Weare Center Store (5)
Baseball Field Only (3)
Post Office (2)
Green Space (2)
Soccer Fields (2)
All Existing Buildings (1)
Bank (1)
Older Homes (1)
Legion Building (1)
Block Building (1)
Wood School Building (1)
Tennis Courts (1)
Façade of Old Elementary School (1)

**Things, Elements, Facilities that Do Not Belong in Weare Center
(by priority)**

- Fire Station (4)
- Ball field (2)
- Chain Retail Store (2)
- Manufacturing (2)
- Fast Food Franchise (1)
- Shopping Center (1)
- Service Station (1)
- Old School Buildings (1)
- Elderly or Condo Housing (1)
- Retail Stores (1)
- Goffstown Type Park (1)
- Trails for ATVs/Snow Machines (1)
- Middle School (1)
- Large Scale Commercial (1)
- Multi-Family Housing (1)
- Modern Architecture (1)
- Billboard and Big Signs (1)
- Skate Park (1)
- Housing Development (1)
- Manufactured Housing (1)
- Parking Lot (1)
- All-Night Lighting (1)

Paul Doshier and Tom Clow will review and further organize the above responses for discussion at the October meeting.

On-Going Communications: The Secretary was directed to contact residents and stakeholders again and invite them to the October meeting, and to place an announcement on the Channel 6 message board.

The next meeting of the committee is Tuesday, October 26, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices.

Submitted by: Wilbur C. Beaupre, Secretary

