

**Comprehensive Master Plan  
Review Team  
January 22, 2015 Meeting**

Team Members present were: Marge Govoni, Sparky Hurgin, Dave Tobin, Dave Lavigne, Tony Searles, Dave Nadeau, Frayla Schoerfeld, and Mike Duffy

Staff present were: Planning Director, Ben Smith and Planner, Amanda Lessard

Consultant present was: Mark Eyerman of Planning Decisions

Public Comment/Review Team Comments from the Public

- Sparky noted that people he heard from are appreciative of the outreach made so far – the forums in particular.

Drafting the Plan and Scheduling

- Meetings going forward would be once a month.
- Occasional guest speakers would be invited for relevant sections of the plan.
- The review team will receive chapters for review while staff works on the next chapter. Draft chapters will be on the web site.

Review of Public Input & Involvement

- Discussion occurred regarding ongoing public out-reach.
  - The out-reach plan would be amended to include workshops with the Town Council at key points in the process
  - 2 more “community scale” events were planned. One at the end of this year or early 2016 to present a first draft of the plan, and a second in early- to mid-2016 to show the public how comments and suggested revisions from the first draft were incorporated into the document.
  - Quarterly updates were being provided to the Town Council.
  - David Tobin suggested a regular article in one of the newspapers, to update the public, and suggested a good first article might be “What is a Comprehensive Plan?” (why plan, what are the sections, what are the implications?)

The Vision Statement:

- Common themes from public in-put were reviewed. These were presented in a section of their own called “core values.”
- Most of the discussion points could be grouped into the following topic areas:
  - North Windham section of the Vision
    - Need to clarify if “the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Plan leads or if the Comprehensive Plan leads” as stated by Dave Tobin. He was not supportive of new residential uses in the North Windham commercial area as called for in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Plan, and wondered if that had to be part of this Comprehensive Plan update.
    - Numerous people had issues with the phrase “true town center” as used to describe North Windham, from the standpoint of geography and sense of community. Many people find community in Windham Center (schools, sports) while North Windham may be the commercial center.
    - Marge noted that the area of North Windham needs to be defined – the area referred to as North Windham changes based on the context of the discussion.
  - Tony reminded the group that the Vision should reflect in-put from the public, not only the Review Team’s opinion

- Statement was made after several comments related to personal views of parts of Town as they exist today, and in regard to past planning and policy decisions made by the Town.
- Mark suggested the Review Team should familiarize themselves with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown Plan for the next meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for on February 5, 2015 at 7:00 pm, pending confirmation of Mark's availability.