

Vision 21 Implementation Committee
Minutes -- March 26, 2009
(Approved April 6, 2009)

Present: Kirk Hazlett, chair: Tim Bowman, Jonathan Mascia, Sara Oaklander, Jennifer Page, Paul Solomon

Absent: Al Rubin

- Convening and Welcome:
 - Kirk Hazlett convened the meeting at 7:05.
Kirk welcomed our two recently-appointed members, Tim Bowman and Jonathan Mascia.
- Administrivia:

The minutes of March 12 were approved unanimously.
- Update on Sustainable Belmont
Jennifer reported on two recent forums sponsored by Sustainable Belmont: a forum on solar technology and a program on sustainable gardening. Regarding the CAP, Sustainable Belmont is planning to launch the public vetting of the Climate Action Plan with a “friendly coffee” on Sunday, March 29 at 2:00 p.m. and a public forum on Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Room at Chenery Middle School. VIC members were urged to attend one of them. (Paul, Sara, and Jonathan thought they could attend on the 13th.) If members of the VIC would be able to host a coffee as well, that would also be very helpful.
- Debriefing of meeting with Board of Selectmen:

Our meeting was discussed. We were delighted that Tim and Jonathan were (finally!) appointed as members. We agreed that the overview of accomplishments was helpful. Kirk was congratulated for his presentation to the Board. Lessons learned: We should be more active in letting the public and the Board know of the projects we undertake on their behalf. It reminds people of our role and also of the vision. Also, our mandate does “require” regular reporting by us.
- 3 Recap of presentation to Belmont Town Club (3/19)
Kirk reported that he had been invited to be the speaker at the March meeting of the Belmont Town Club. Kirk felt that the group was politely interested in our work but, in some instances, not clear about our area of authority. Kirk distributed copies of the Vision and also our list of accomplishments.
- 4 Barn By-Law at Town Meeting
Building on the Vision Committee’s support of the Barn By-Law (see minutes of March 12), it was decided that Tim Bowman, TMM, Pr. 5, should convey to Town Meeting the Committee’s support of this by-law, based on the language of

the Vision. Tim agreed to do so and looked to the committee for further refinement of the message.

8 Belmont's website – further action by VIC, Sara and Jennifer reporting:
8 Sara and Jen reviewed their meeting of 3/24 with Dave Petto and Sandra Curro, to provide a progress report on our work with the “newcomers” section; they also verified with Sandra that she would like the http “address” for each hyperlink. Dave and Sandra seem appreciative of the work VIC is doing in this matter.

8 “Homework” by members was shared”

8 Welcome letter: We discussed the revision of a letter to go out over Tom Younger's name, which had been drafted by Paul Solomon. With further modifications proposed by the group, Sara will send it to Dave/ Sandra.

8 Newspapers: Kirk shared his list of newspapers, adding to it the Boston Business Journal. He will provide Sara with the http addresses.

8 Banks: Jonathan's computer had sent us all the list of banks in Belmont but not the hyperlink addresses. Jonathan will send Sara the information that had not been included.

8 “Hot Tips” -- Tim offered a draft and the group reviewed it and provided suggestions. Tim will work further on this piece.

8 We reviewed the “checklist” and revised the order of listed items.

8 New homework assignment: Sara and Jennifer were not prepared to assign new homework, but will meet and do so soon. We agreed that this was an effective way to get our work done.

8 Video Project

8 Jennifer and Sara reported a new and surprising opportunity: Dave Petto indicated that Tom Younger suggested that the Vision Committee become the body responsible for working with CGI to develop the video streaming project with CGI. Lengthy discussion ensued. There was considerable uncertainty about our role, about how much time this would take, and how much we could shape the quality of the product. It would provide us with a unique opportunity to take leadership in a town-wide project, but it could also absorb a huge amount of time. We agreed that it was an exciting possibility, but we need to talk with CGI to answer questions and discuss our role before we commit to taking it on. Action step: Sara will contact Dave Petto to arrange a time for CGI to meet with us.

8 Kirk knows a person in Somerville who may shed some light on this process and will discuss it with him/her before our meeting with CGI.

8 Sara will propose April 6 for a meeting with CGI; if that does not work, she will propose a smaller meeting, in late afternoon of a work day, the date yet to be determined.)

9 New Business: revised schedules

We were alerted to the fact that the second night of Passover coincides with our scheduled meeting of April 9. And our scheduled meeting of April 23 coincides with the Warrant Discussion, preparatory to Town Meeting. We revised our meeting schedule as follows:

- Monday, April 6 (Kirk, Jonathan, Paul and Sara can attend; perhaps Tim; perhaps Al; Jennifer – no)
- Thursday, April 30 (Note: this meeting falls on the heels of two town meetings this week!) (Tim, Kirk, Jonathan, Jennifer can attend; perhaps Al; Sara and Paul – no;)
- Kirk will cancel the meetings of April 9 and April 23, reserve rooms for the new dates, post the revised schedule, and notify us all.
- Secretarial duties: Jennifer is filling in for Al, who agreed to a swap. Will Al be able to meet on April 6 and take notes for Jennifer?

9 Adjournment at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Page
Secretary, Pro Tempore