

## BELMONT VISION 21 IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 12, 2002 –

(Amended and Approved 1-9-03)

Members present: Joe Greene, Matt Hausmann, Bill Hofmann, Sara Oaklander, Meg O'Brien, Jennifer Page, Paul Solomon, Barry Winston

Absent: Martin Greco, Tim Higgins, (Delores Keefe)

1. Chairman Page called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. We noted corrections and additions to the minutes of November 21 and passed them as amended.

3. Report from Sara Oaklander on the Business and Economic Development Planning Group:

3.1 The group will meet with the Selectmen on December 16 to review their mandate; at this meeting, the group will propose some modifications to the mandate, de-emphasizing the goal of raising tax revenues and emphasizing the goal of finding ways to help our business areas thrive.

3.2 Sara gave us an update on what the group has been addressing in its recent meetings. They have heard presentations by Charlie Laverty on assessments and from Tim Higgins on the Trapelo Road corridor project. Also, of course, they have been working on revising their mandate.

4. Discussion: Our final report to the Selectmen on the results of the forums.

4.1 General organization of the final report: Jennifer provided a proposed organization for the report. It was suggested that the section that discusses why we need more robust business areas be presented as the joint perspective of the business community and residents.

4.2 Recommendations: Jennifer had drafted some initial recommendations; the group felt she did a great job with those and it was agreed she would do the same for other topics in the recommendations area. She will bring those back to us at the next meeting. There seemed to be general agreement that we are going in the right direction for our report.

5. January meeting schedule: Our January meeting schedule will be 1/9/03 and 1/30/03. [Note to readers: the January 30 date was subsequently moved to January 23. -- JP] Jennifer will circulate a fuller meeting schedule after the New Year.

6. School Committee Representative: Jennifer announced that she had heard from Kathy Miller to say that Jenny Fallon, a former School Committee member, will represent the School Committee until the S.C.'s next organizational meeting, in April '03.

7. Further revisions to the "Guidelines for Planning Groups": In the spirit of Matt's description of the Guidelines as a "living document," Jennifer proposed two changes to the text that we had approved in November: (1) In the section under "methodology", we should delete the second

sentence, "The guidelines of this methodology were initially created by the Board of Selectmen and detailed by the Vision 21 Implementation Committee, and finally approved by the Board of Selectmen." Jennifer commented that since this is really a document which we developed to make clear how we will work with the groups, it represents our own guidelines; and that although we will share it with the Selectmen, we should not request their "approval" lest they be tempted to edit it even further. (2) We should delete the section called "Mandates." The Committee accepted both changes.

8. The next meeting of the committee will be on January 9, 2003, in the Staff Room of the Library.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM., amidst many wishes for happy holidays.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Hofmann, III, Secretary pro tem