

• VISION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

• MEETING, DECEMBER 10, 2008

• MINUTES

• Present: Kirk Hazlett, Sara Oaklander, Jennifer Page, Al Rubin. Paul Solomon
• Guests: Joanne Coakley, Tim Bowman

• Chairman Hazlett opened the meeting at 7:05pm in the Assembly Room of the Library.

• After recommended changes, the minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2008 were approved unanimously.

• REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE BELMONT (SB):

• Jennifer noted that SB approved a Governance Structure at its Dec. 3, 2008 meeting. The document had been distributed to the Vision Implementation Committee (VIC).

• The Co-chairs of SB will make a progress report to the VIC in February. There was discussion of the relationship between the VIC and its “spin offs” or task forces, with one possibility being more frequent reports to the VIC by the task forces. It was noted that the VIC’s mandate gives it the flexibility to choose the areas of activity for a variety of task forces. Jennifer suggested that we might want to re-establish a business group to support that constituency’s involvement in SB’s Climate Action Plan.

• THE TOWN WEBSITE

• Jennifer and Sara reported on their meeting (Dec.9) with Dave Petto, the Town’s IT Director, and Sandra Curro, Assistant to the Town Administrator. The website will undergo substantial change in the near future, including a new address, under the direction of a 5 member committee, including Dave and Sandra.

• Dave and Sandra are open to VIC participation in discussion of the architecture and content in areas of pertinence to the VIC, before the site is official. Sara and Jennifer urged the removal from the site of the welcoming booklet because it is hopelessly out of date.

• There was considerable discussion of the need for public input on the structure and content of the new website, and how the VIC could facilitate this input. It was agreed that VIC involvement and public input should be helpful, and make the website more successful, without creating extra work for already over stressed town employees. However, Sara noted that since most of the structure of the new site has already been created, we must contribute within that structure. It was suggested that the VIC could

maintain a continuing involvement in this project, which would include input from the public.

- - NEXT STEPS: Since there is a feeling of urgency, it was agreed to schedule an extra VIC meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6, with the agenda to include:
 - * **Brainstorming: what should be on the web site?**
 - * **How can the results of the brainstorming fit into an already established structure?**
 - **All attendees are asked to do the following in preparation for the Jan. 6 meeting:**
 - * **Ask several relative newcomers to Belmont: “What do you wish you knew when you moved to Belmont?”; and/or,**
 - * **Review 4-5 municipal websites (anywhere in the country), with special attention to information for newcomers.**
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 - Sara and Jennifer will invite, to the Jan.6 meeting, several residents who have expressed interest in helping the VIC, including those who attended our Oct. 23 meeting.
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 - The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.
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 - Respectfully submitted,
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 - Paul Solomon
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- Secretary Pro Tem