

Master Plan Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2017

Attendees: Carla Westine, Hugh Henry, Claudio Veliz, Barry Pinske, Scott Wunderlie, David Pisha, Rick Paterno, Kelly Arrison, Bob Flint

The meeting was opened at 10:10 AM

Claudio Veliz made a motion to accept the previous meeting's minutes.

Rick Paterno seconded the motion.

Carla Westine stated that Mark Kane stated it was his intention, on page 2.

Claudio Veliz wanted the name National Survey preserved.

Hugh Henry objected to the use of the term Academy Building. There were other names more appropriate, he said. Use a more historic name, he added.

The minutes with these changes were approved unanimously.

A discussion ensued as to how to proceed. Item three in each statement was not going to be discussed it was decided.

The final results of each item are shown below.

The Red type indicates the changes the group wanted to make. The black is the original.

The Arts, architecture and culture are celebrated facets of community life and ***are*** present and visible throughout Chester Village Center

Businesses that cater to a diverse market of locals and visitors are supported through appropriate policies and community efforts to enhance the overall experience within Chester Village Center, improve the visibility of local businesses and align business interests with other objectives of the community.

Businesses that cater to a diverse market are supported through policies which build consensus which strengthens community efforts to enhance the overall experience within the Chester Village Center. These policies are efforts to improve the economic viability of local businesses

Chester Village Center preserves and embraces its exceptional historic resources and rich character for the benefit of all and leverages its history and culture as a defining element of the community's identity

Preserve, protect and enhance the exceptional historic resources and rich character of the Chester Village Center; recognizing its history and culture as defining elements of the community's identity.

Land use and community design reflects the unique qualities of the various sub areas within Chester Village Center while also providing a thread of unity and continuity throughout

Land Use and Community Design should reflect the unique qualities found within the Chester Village Center incorporating continuity and connectivity

The connection of recreational opportunities within and from Chester Village Center is *maintained and expanded*, thereby improving the quality of life.

Safe and convenient travel to and through Chester Village Center is provided for all modes of travel while capitalizing on the transportation improvements for the enhancement of other community objectives

Provide safe and convenient travel through the Chester Village Center for all modes of travel, for the enhancement of the community's objectives

Create Signage in the Village Center that communicates the identity of Chester while welcoming both locals and visitors and enhance their understanding and experience of the community.

Hugh Henry felt the initial survey was overrepresented by upper class citizens of Chester and the results did not reflect the attitude of all the residents.

Claudio Veliz believes more open house sessions should be held to attract people who have yet to be heard.

Kelly Arrison said the Heart & Soul Video has proven techniques to solicit answers from these people who have not been heard from to date.

Claudio Veliz suggested to Town leadership to use the Town Planning Tool Box. He promised to send a link to it to all the committee members.

A discussion was had about the three distinct districts in Chester Village; the Village Center, the area stretching up to Town Hall and the Stone Village. While the Stone Village is not technically part of the grant, the group felt considering it was important.

Claudio asked why we wanted connectivity between all three sections. David Pisha said that by doing so created a 'critical mass' that made the whole area more appealing than any individual area could generate by itself.

Before adjourning the group discussed how best to engaged people who have not been heard from yet. David Pisha suggested an article in the next Town Newsletter explaining the work that had been done so far to set a baseline of facts. There is apparently various thoughts circulating in town about what the group is doing that are not necessarily accurate.

Claudio Veliz and Rick Paterno wanted to hold additional open house sessions and invite the public to attend. David Pisha said the same people that already attended would be the most likely people to show up.

The group then talked about going out and talking to groups instead of waiting for people to come to an open house. Carla Westine talked about the fish fry at the Legion and other groups in town that might want to hear about what is going on.

Ultimately the general consensus was that meeting with people was preferable to any written updates.

The next meeting date was set for April 4, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the Free Range.

Scott Wunderle made the motion to Adjourn at noon. Rick Paterno seconded it and it was approved unanimously.