

TAMWORTH MASTER PLAN MEETING MINUTES
for
Tuesday, November 27, 2007

Chairman Tom Peters convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Ann Albrecht, Tom Cleveland, Pat Farley, Willie Farnum, Steve Gray, David Little, Lois Maxner, John Mersfelder, Robert Straw, and Ruth Timchak. Apologies were sent from Dan Rowe and Kate Vachon.

Chapter Write-ups

The task for the Master Plan Committee was to review the chapter write-ups.

The Vision Statement will be Chapter 1 and will stay as it is.

Tom Peters is working on the Land Use Chapter. He borrowed some information from the pages submitted by Bob Cottrell on the history of the landscape and farming. He would also like to include a self-explanatory chart using census data. For recommendations, Tom borrowed some ideas from Tamworth's 1980 Master Plan. He also went to Lakes Region Planning for advice.

From the forum, Tom will incorporate the recommendations about the villages, industrial districts, and commercial development. He noted that there is nothing mentioned anywhere about sub divisions.

Transportation

The Transportation Chapter being worked on by Dave Haskell and Steve Gray is in good shape.

Regional Concerns

Ann Albrecht asked what exactly should the chapter on Regional Concerns include since so many issues, including conservation, transportation, and economic development are covered in the other chapters. The answer was for Ann and Becky Mason to focus on what impacts the whole region. Discussion should focus on Routes 16 and 25 and the Towns of Conway and Ossipee. National forests and regional transportation can also be covered. The suggestion was made to contact people to speak to at the Ossipee Planning Board, the North Country Council, The Lakes Region Council, and various economic and business groups.

There was a good deal of discussion about the meaning of the word "rural." Someone suggested that we look up the word in the dictionary for a precise meaning. The American Heritage Dictionary has this: 1. Of or pertaining to the country as opposed to the city; rustic. 2. Of or pertaining to people who live in the country. 3. Of or relating to farming; agricultural. The American Heritage Dictionary also includes a whole paragraph of synonyms.

Goals and Recommendations

The 1980 Master Plan has 11 pages of Goals and Recommendations which are well done and can be updated for the new Master Plan. The Committee spent much of the meeting updating the section on "Tamworth Goals," pp. ix-xi in the 1980 book. The consensus was as follow:

- I. Population Growth. A. B. and C. will be left as they are.
- II. Rural and Village Character. A. B. and C. will be left as they are.
- III. Critical Resource Areas. A. will be left as it is. B. will be: "To protect wetlands and water bodies." C. will be left as it is. D. will be: "To preserve agricultural land and to encourage farming." E. will be: "To preserve unfragmented forest lands."
- IV. Open Space. A. and B. will be left as they are.
- V. Land Use. A. will be: "To give full consideration to the natural capability of the land to sustain varying types and intensities of development." B. will be: "To protect natural resources and the environment." C. will remain as it is. D. will be: "To protect the environment from pollution."

VI. Housing. A. will be: "To encourage single family housing, elderly housing, affordable housing, and cluster developments. B. will stay as it is.

VII. Economic Base and Employment. A. will be: "To attract and maintain businesses that are consistent with the overall character of our community." B. will stay as it is.

VIII. Commercial and Industrial Development. A. will be: "To identify areas to locate business and industrial development." B. will be: "To encourage environmentally sensitive, low-impact business and industrial development." C. will be: "To restrict sprawl."

IX. Community Facilities. A. will be: "To provide for community services that are cost effective and which meet the needs of the community."

X. Roads and Highways. A. will stay as it is. B. will be: "To monitor carefully road and access-way construction in subdivisions to protect the interests of the town and those of the residents." C. and D. will stay the same.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

The Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Tamworth Master Plan will be December 18, 2007, at the Cook Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m. The Committee will finish Goals and Recommendations as well as review the chapters not done in the last Master Plan.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Albrecht
Recording Secretary