

**IMAGINE AMHERST
MEETING NOTES**

JOINT MEETING OF PROJECT WORKING COMMITTEE &
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MARCH 8, 2016

This meeting is being recorded.

Working Committee Attendees: Dal Giuliani, Chair, Ellen Banks, Duncan Black, David Chiazza, Jim Cwierley, Steve Herberger, Brian Kulpa, Carl Montante, Jr., Gary Palumbo, Frank Pasztor, Ramona Popowich, Dan Ulatowski, Bob White, Jane Woodward

Technical Committee Attendees: Rick Gillert, Chair, Jim Allen, Brian Andrzejewski, Gary Black, Hal Morse (Kelly Dixon), Bill Pidgeon, Bart Roberts, Mark Rountree

**Town Board and
Planning Board Attendees:** Robert Gilmour, Fran Spoth, Mary Shapiro

General Attendees: Janice Dunn, Thomas Frank, Adrienne Kotler, Ellary Mori, Debra Norton, W. Popowich, Donald Smith, Ken Smith

Robert Gilmour, Planning Board Chair, thanked everyone for attending. He also expressed gratitude to Committee members for accepting the responsibility for being a part of this Committee. He noted that this is an exciting opportunity for Amherst because the end result is going to help shape the future development of the Town. He introduced Dal Giuliani, Chair of the Working Committee.

Dal Giuliani stated that he agreed with Mr. Gilmour that this is a unique opportunity for the Town. He gave a description of the tasks for the Committee and introduced the Committee members and consultants. Dal asked if the Committee should meet at 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. They supported 7:00 p.m. The Committee will meet the last Wednesday of the month and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Giuliani added that a public comment period would be open at the conclusion of the consultant's presentation, and speakers would be limited to 3 minutes.

Rick Gillert, Chair, Technical Committee introduced the members of that Committee and also gave a brief description of tasks for the Committee.

**IMAGINE AMHERST
MEETING NOTES**

March 8, 2016

Page 2

Lee Einsweiler, Principal, Code Studio introduced himself and his colleague, Colin Scarff. Lee and Colin are in Amherst from March 8-10 for project kickoff activities. Lee gave a presentation on the background of the firm and the process that will be undertaken for updating the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code.

Dal Giuliani opened a period for public comment and questions.

Thomas Frank addressed the Committee with remarks regarding his project on energy relicensing. Mr. Gillert addressed his questions.

Debra Norton asked about an agenda for different groups. Mr. Giuliani stated that there were 6 groups of stakeholders who would be interviewed by the consultant at stakeholder meetings during this visit. At the Consultants' request, these groups were assembled to represent different perspectives of the Community and help orient the Consultant and to gain awareness of conditions in the Town. Mr. Einsweiler added that the separate groups, included design professionals, environmental representatives, neighborhood representatives, business owners, land owners, and younger residents age 25-35.

Don Smith stated that the public has to believe in the updates/recommendations. He also said that the meetings should be streamed live.

Mr. Giuliani stated that the meeting was being recorded but noted that all facilities do not have the capability to stream live/video record.

Ramona Popowich noted that many school facilities could be an alternate venue for meeting since they have recording and video capabilities.

Adrienne Kotler stated that a 3 minute time limit per speaker was not sufficient; perhaps 5 minutes would be more in line.

Dan Ulatowski asked if the Committee chooses the focus areas for the charettes and detailed study. Mr. Einsweiler stated that they had not been designated yet, but would be concentrating on the mixed use and commercial areas along major corridors as designated in the Comprehensive Plan. The Committee will help determine the locations.

Mary Shapiro stated that environmental places and areas should be looked at as assets.

A full video of the meeting will be available for viewing on the project website at: @imagineamherst.com.

Adjourned: 8:15 pm.

Notes accepted at meeting of April 26, 2016.