

MINUTES
Phillips Revitalization Steering Committee Meeting
August 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Margaret Cosenza, John Stinchfield, Dick Stovall, and Dick & Pam Matthews (Absent: Matt Sharp)

A short-notice meeting was called to discuss two major issues:

1. The Community Development Block Grant for sidewalks and downtown improvements is being pursued by Town Manager Elaine Hubbard and the Selectmen, negating the need for Revitalization to take the lead. Elaine has set up a meeting with Amy Landry from AVCOG for Sept. 19 at 3 p.m., to learn how to start on this process.

Dick Stovall offered to assist Elaine; the Committee will offer assistance.

2. Margaret spoke with Cindy Dixon about a “Business Day”, and needs to know whether to proceed, in light of our meeting with the Chamber and talk of a business association (would this be a better focus for us now?).

The purpose of a Business Day would be to bring business into the town and also help established businesses. A Business Association would do this, so we’ll focus on that. Discussion of our role in the future association followed. We decided to facilitate its establishment, leaving it to business owners and community members to form the association. We can research this model and offer assistance. An association might encompass Phillips, Avon, Madrid, and Salem (and Strong?).

Dick Stovall brought up the idea of dissolving our sub-committees, or folding them back into Steering, since much of the groundwork has been done and the committees (and meetings) don’t seem necessary. Margaret pointed out that we need to research the Comprehensive Plan, since this is the “Town Bible” for our future development and tells us what we need to do. This Committee was appointed by the selectmen, and may be mentioned in the Comp. Plan, and any decision about this may be up to the selectmen.

Dick Stovall proposed that, subject to the approval of the selectmen and the Comprehensive Plan, we propose that the sub-committees be brought back into one Steering Committee. We will all check the Comprehensive Plan and go from there.

We need to ask the selectmen to appoint a replacement for Nancy O’Toole on the Steering Committee so we’ll have 7 members again. Our current membership consists of 2 selectmen and the 5 sub-committee chairs (Events, Pam Matthews; Planning, Dick Stovall; Branding, Dick Matthews; Trains, Matt Sharp; and Nancy O’Toole was our

Grants Chairperson.) Margaret suggested Dick write this up in the *Vitalizer* and see who comes forward to apply for the position.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 6 p.m. at the Town Office

All meetings of the Revitalization Committees are open to anyone interested in attending. New members are always welcome. To get on our mailing list, please contact Pam or Dick Matthews at 639-2630.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Matthews, chairperson