

**Plymouth Public Lands
August 2, 2007
Minutes
Prepared by: Elizabeth Sullivan**

These minutes are not verbatim – they are staffs interpretation of what took place at the meeting. – Open Meeting Law – Section III.

Board Members: Christine Reardon, Doris Johnson, Casey Shetterly, and David Malaguti

Staff Members: Elizabeth Sullivan, Denis Hanks and Patrick Farah

Approve Minutes

Minutes from the July 19, 2007 meeting were approved by a vote of 3-0 with 1 abstention.

Next Meeting

The Committee voted to hold the next meeting on September 20, 2007.

Guest Speaker – Denis Hanks, Economic Development

Mr. Hanks noted that he believes the Public Lands Committee is a great idea. He said that when the Economic Foundation reviews parcels of land they go by the recommendations in the RKG Study. He further stated that the Foundation looks for the highest and best uses for land and identifies land that should be banked for the future. Development within village centers is beneficial because it provides tax incentives.

Board members asked Mr. Hanks several questions including:

Are there any incentives for parcels in disrepair?

- Ø Denis Hanks explained that there was a higher priority placed on parcels with historic preservation. He stated that there was a housing task incentive as well.

Does Economic Development an acreage requirement?

- Ø Mr. Hanks stated that when reviewing parcels each site is reviewed case by case and there is not a required amount of acres.

Does the Foundation have any interest in the Armory building?

- Ø No. Mr. Hanks talked briefly about the Court House property stating that the County was still unsure what to do with the site.

Is there a reason why Plymouth uses the Old Colony Planning Council rather than the Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD)?

- Ø Plymouth County falls within the jurisdiction of the Old Colony Planning Council.

Does the Foundation have a list of their top 10 parcels?

- Ø The Foundation's major focus is New England Park. Mass Development is to present to the Board of Selectmen in 1 month. Mr. Hanks mentioned that the 1000 acres is remote and has poor access. He noted that the mission of the Economic Foundation is to provide jobs and taxes for the town of Plymouth. Mr. Hanks further stated that the Commerce Way Corridor Study shows that 40% of the town is currently tax exempt. Additionally, Plymouth has 600 jobs coming online in the next year.

Liz explained the current Tax Title process.

David Malaguti explained the process of the former Land Use and Acquisition Committee.

Committee Focus

The committee reviewed and gave comments on the Overall Guiding Principles and Goals. It was the consensus of the committee to have a simplified set of goals. It was suggested that the goals listed were better as guidelines. Casey Shetterly will email a list of goals to Liz Sullivan. The Committee will vote on the Overall Guiding Principles and Goals at the next meeting.

Meeting dates & Times

Next meeting scheduled for 9/20/07 @ 7PM at the Library in the Otto Fehlow Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.