

**Town of Northwood
Planning Board
February 23, 2017**

MINUTES

Chair Robert Strobel called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Robert Strobel, Vice Chair Rich Bojko, Hal Kreider, Joe McCaffrey, Lucy Edwards, Betty Smith, Chair Robert Strobel, Selectmen's Representative Rick Wolf, and Alternate Lee Baldwin.

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Town Administrator Joe Gunter, Board Administrator Linda Smith, and Land Use Secretary Susan Austin.

VOTING DESIGNATION: Vice Chair Rich Bojko, Hal Kreider, Lucy Edwards, Joe McCaffrey, Betty Smith, Chair Robert Strobel, Selectmen's Representative Rick Wolf.

Minutes:

January 19, 2017

Ms. B.Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of January 19, 2017.

Mr. Bojko seconded. Motion carries 7/0.

Main Business: Master Plan Update

Ms. L. Smith distributed the vision statement draft dated 2013.

Chair Strobel stated that the recommendation from the Office of the State is to update the Master Plan every 8 to 12 years. At the time that they started to work on this, the plan was 8 years old. There weren't that many changes to make aside from the reduction in growth rate and the increase in the aging population. The rest of the sections do not have significant changes. The vision statement and land use sections are the required sections to be updated. He stated that he'd like to get edits done at this meeting on the vision statement.

The board discussed the issue of the aging population and the problems they were facing financially and how they could incorporate these issues into the vision statement. The board also discussed the access issues that the town had to shops and doctors. Walking access to groceries and other amenities was also an issue that the board discussed. A possible "downtown area" was discussed. The larger lot size required in the zoning development was brought up as a concern. Volunteerism was also discussed in terms of finding more people for the boards.

The board went through each bullet point of the vision statement and discussed edits. Chairman Strobel states he will make the edits and provide to the board.

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Mr. Gunter stated that he would like to see a subcommittee formed that would continue to work on the Master Plan. He offers to assist with the MPU when he has time in his schedule.

Discussion continued on the changes and edits the board would like to make on the vision statement.

Mr. Bojko made a motion to adjourn at 8:26 PM. Mr. McCaffrey seconded. Motion carries 7/0.