

## **2/18/25 Masterplan Subcommittee Meeting Notes**

### **Attendees:**

Phil Auger, Susan Arnold, Bob Bennett, Hammond Brown, Meg Herndon, Phillip Lovejoy, Charlie Moreno, Claire Murdaugh, Susan Ryan, Betsy Schaeffer

### **Meeting Notes:**

Charlie Moreno and Susan Arnold, representing the Planning Board, welcomed the group and requested brief reports from committees:

#### **Natural Resources** (Phillip Lovejoy)

1. Proposal for natural resources inventory is complete but as yet there is no funding.
2. Farming initiative has started with a couple of meetings, but challenged by lack of data and contacts for the number of active farms in town. The committee is considering whether the initiative should be broader than just Strafford.

#### **Community Center** (Claire Murdaugh)

1. Working with Selectboard on a warrant article for an appraisal of the land behind the Town Offices. Phil Auger noted that \$5k was allocated for Town Library “investigation” of alternatives, and some of that funding could be used for this effort. In the meantime, conversation continues with the landowners who have not agreed to anything yet.
2. The subcommittee is planning on having an information table at Town Meeting to bring more awareness to the community center effort.

#### **Library** (Meg Herndon)

1. The library held a listening charette with ~25 attendees. Another ~25 responded to an on-line survey.
2. Owen from SRP will create a report, and Susan Ryan is assisting with project planning for a feasibility study.

### **Arts and Events Council (Susan Ryan)**

1. Council is meeting monthly with 100% attendance.
2. New logo approved and in use!
3. Hoping to find a fiscal agent and insurance through Barrington Chamber of Commerce.
4. Planning has begun for an “Old Home Day” in September, 2026, at Kitz Farm.

### **Bow Lake (Bob Bennett, Phil Auger)**

1. Committee is focused on identifying and addressing issues that are driving lake quality concerns (cyanobacteria, etc.).
2. Need watershed management plan to access state/federal funding for remediation.
3. Plan is to apply for Pisquataca Regional Estuary Grant of \$25k, and if received match with \$25k warrant article.

### **Green Committee (Hammond Brown)**

1. First priority was exploring community power, but there is no interest in it from the Selectboard. (Community Power is currently facing some rate challenges so there are no projects happening at this time)
2. Looking into solid waste issues and defeat of “pay as you throw” in the past.
3. Strafford is a member of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association, perhaps might have technical assistance/site visit potential.
4. Current committee is just three people.

The group discussed and agreed there should be a table at Town Meeting about masterplan implementation to raise awareness and ideally recruit more committee members. Susan will help to coordinate with Terri Marsh and SRP on logistics and materials.

During the wrap up, the group agreed to meet three times per year (Feb., June, Oct.).  
**The remaining 2025 meetings will be June 10th and October 14th.**