

**Master Plan Action Committee Meeting January 10, 2008
7 pm, Hawlemont School**

This meeting had been announced in the paper, posted on the town bulleting board for a week , several messages had gone to the email list and it was posted in town hall 30 hours before.

Present: Andy Mueller, Susanne Willard, Norma and Bill Coli, Doug White, Neal Lear, John Hoffman, Greg Lewis; Bill Stephens, Dan Miller, Amy Wales and Gisela Walker.

The group spent about half an hour on debriefing about the town meeting vote on the zoning revisions; about 45 minutes discussing options for next steps and half an hour discussing what kind of town meeting and when to bring the bylaw back to the voters.

Here is a summary of comments:

Why did we lose the vote, even though we lost by a small margin?

- Confusion about the content; people had not read it, had not kept track of the changes
- Opponents were opposed for reasons not related to the content but out of fear of change, negative attitudes about the Planning Board, unknown reasons as they did not engage in conversation about it.
- Opponents opposed specifics such as lot size increase, new districts, longer application forms
- Message about the need for changes was not compelling enough to bring out more voters

Next Steps

Option 1: To bring the whole package back to town meeting as is with more public outreach to offer better understanding of the content.

Option 2: To make certain changes and bring it back and

Option 3: To take the package apart into sections and introduce them one a year over the next few years.

Lengthy discussion of the pros and cons followed and the agreement emerged to come back with more specific scenarios for Option 2 and 3 for the next meeting.

Annual town meeting vs special town meeting:

ATM would only work if BoS was willing to have it continued into the following week or next day. Would save money and possibly provide a venue for town counsel review. Could we have special town meeting before ATM or have it in the Fall? Do we need more time or would we lose momentum?

Gisela will flesh out the options and talk to BoS re ATM and develop a couple of time lines. Next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 13, 2008. Have to check with School.