

1 **TOWN OF FITZWILLIAM**
2 **Master Plan Steering Committee**

3 **Minutes - DRAFT**

4 **June 15, 2022**

5 **Members Present:** Rik Ekstrom; Robin Marra; Sarah Olson; Brian Doerpholz;

6 **Planning Board Members Present:** Suzanne Gray

7 **Staff Present:** Lori Nolan.

8
9 The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

10 Master Plan Document and Writing: There is a proposed table of contents with chapter
11 titles as well as a template of how to start drafting chapters. Overlap of topics will occur
12 and hopefully the vision and executive summary will give a sense of those connections.
13 We want summary data and tables in the chapters, but potentially keep raw data and
14 analysis in an appendix.

15 *Population and Housing* – Population can be utilized as a data standpoint but with
16 housing as a focus.

17 *Community Resources vs Community Facilities.* Many facilities in town are community
18 resources and maybe we should frame this chapter to emphasize that these are
19 resources that support the community. We can include discussion of items that are
20 missing in the town.

21 *Town Owned Land.* The town owns several small pieces of property that are off of the
22 tax role. Could this master plan identify a roadmap of how the town can better utilize
23 these properties? Perhaps pursuing selling them to abutters, improving a property to
24 make an additional town beach, considering options for developing Class VI roads,
25 and/or merging lots to make acreage or frontage sufficient to be a buildable lot.

26 Dream is to get rid of lines downtown/village area – transportation and infrastructure

27 Economic Development – explains land use boards on website. Flow chart. RURAL.
28 INN.

29 *Agricultural Commission.* We discussed the potential need to recreate this type of
30 commission in Fitzwilliam. The main theme was that such a committee would need to

31 encompass beekeepers, maple syrup production farms, and other types of “agriculture”.
32 We would need to define what agriculture means now and what it could mean in
33 Fitzwilliam. The discussion focused on new types of agriculture potentially with
34 increased hydroponic farming or supporting existing farmers through farm tours or by
35 having supply stores or a business that is an aggregator of local farms. by identifying a
36 business).

37 *Land Use Chapter.* Lori is working on a big picture draft that is picking up on recurrent
38 themes while highlighting innovative land use techniques and principles that could be
39 followed. Post the 2012 master plan, the planning board has already begun taking a
40 look at cluster developments, as well as other types of vegetation or buffer zones near
41 certain properties.

42 Survey Updates –7 additional surveys completed and we are now at 305 total.

43 Editor and Artistic Direction– We will need to hire an editor so that there is consistency
44 between chapters. We discussed reaching out to Southwest Region Planning
45 Committee for editorial duties and Coni Porter for printing and artistic direction.

46
47

48 The next meeting will be June 29th.

49

50 The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

51

52 Respectfully Submitted,

53 Sarah Olson