



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## January 2008

### VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2008 MEETING

**In attendance:** Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Joey Glushko, Clare Gordon, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati.

#### **Census Surveys:**

- Surveys went out last week and 75 have already been returned.
- Volunteers were signed up to (1) put barcodes on the forms prior to scanning, (2) retrieve comments submitted on-line and collect those sent in on paper, (3) make a list of people interested in task groups. We could use more volunteers for the first two tasks.

#### **Warrant articles:**

- Waterbodies: The 2006 article was resubmitted so that it can be voted again if the legislature still doesn't act on the original article, which needs "home rule" approval. The new article also includes a request for \$15,000 for the next fiscal year.
- An article requiring an annual report on services to nonprofits provided by the Town.
- An article requiring information from the Contributory Retirement Board.

#### **Website:**

- It would be desirable to have a Vision 2020 webmaster (we would need a volunteer); the Town has only a part-time (paid) one. There are links from the Town website to the sites of the different task groups, but these are not all well maintained. Some suggestions:
  - One Vision 2020 website with pages for the task groups, for consistency (rather than separate sites).
  - Each group should at least list its projects and activities on the site (even if not full minutes).
  - A Vision 2020 calendar with meetings and events of all groups. The Town has a master calendar which includes other things besides Vision 2020, but a calendar for just Vision 2020 would still be desirable.
  - Quarterly summary (fall winter, spring) of all current Vision 2020 projects with ways to get more information, e.g. how to reach contact people.
  - It was agreed to keep the topic of the website on our agenda.

#### **Other:**

- Martin Luther King Day event at Town Hall: Monday, January 21; 6:30 food, 7:30 speaker.
- Candidates' Night at Town Hall: Thursday, January 24, 7:30 p.m., co-sponsored with LWV.
- LWV has lunches in the first Friday of the month; Jane will attend the one in February.
- Town Hall news: The Town Manager and Assistant Manager are hard at work on the budget. Many people are registering to vote. Several retirements from positions dealing with the public are looming.
- Gene Benson has resigned as the official Environment Task Group representative to the Standing Committee. Elizabeth Karpati has offered to serve as his replacement and has the support of all three Environment Committees, needs to be interviewed by the Town Manager before being officially appointed.
- The Diversity Task Group is working with the Disability Commission on organizing a job fair, probably in the fall.
- Andrew Fischer has submitted an article on property insurance issues to the *Arlington Advocate*, but it didn't get printed, perhaps crowded out by all the political news. It could be resubmitted in the summer when there is less other news.