

VISION 2020 FISCAL RESOURCES TASK GROUP
Meeting Minutes 11/20/14
Senior Center Ground Floor

ATTENDEES: Gordon Jamieson (Co-Chair), David Garbarino (Co-Chair), Brian Hasbrouck, Pete Howard (Secretary)

COMMERCIAL LAND ASSESSMENTS: Gordon received and circulated the data that Assessor O'Connor had provided. He asked members to review the data. Members found that the land area was omitted. In addition, there seemed to be no land area associated with condos. He requested a more complete set of data. There has been no response to date. Gordon will repeat his request. The members agreed that if the data is not provided, they will attend the BoS hearing on establishing the tax rate and repeat our request publicly at that time.

FINANCIAL REORGANIZATION: The Town Manager has agreed to meet with the FRTG during our December meeting to discuss the proposal made two years ago. The FRTG is considering whether this issue should be discussed at Town Meeting given the recent problems in the Assessor's office.

MASTER PLAN: The Master Plan Committee has made a draft report available for review on the Town website. They have requested comments by Dec 1. Members discussed their observations after reading the plan. Pete reported on the extent to which the FRTG comments and suggestions on the preliminary plan made a year ago were incorporated in this draft. There was consensus that although the draft contains useful information and at least 80 recommendations, that the recommendations are not prioritized. In addition, the vision is too limited for the scope of the research carried out. Members had numerous smaller concerns including: Responses by email can only be submitted once, Use of unnumbered bullets reduces the plan's usefulness, Commercial development possibilities on Broadway are neglected, Maps-Charts-Appendices mentioned and referred to in the text are missing from the document and that the Importance of volunteers in carrying out the business of the Town (including this plan) is neglected. Pete to draft a letter to the Planning Director with these and other observations for review by members to meet the 12/1 comment deadline.

NEXT MEETING: Dec 18 - Meetings held monthly - 3rd Thursdays 7:30 PM - Senior Ctr Ground Floor