

Middletown Springs Planning Commission
Special Meeting Approved Minutes
August 5, 2014

Members Present: John Arsenault, Tom Hurcomb, Maureen McCormack

Public Present: Nora Rubenstein, Herb Childress,
and Ed Bove from RRPC.

- 1) Call to Order: 7:10 PM
- 2) Approval of Agenda: Approved as presented.
- 3) Review of June 1, 2014 Creative Community Meeting:
With only the 3 present who had been present at the June 1 meeting this item was waived.
- 4) Update on Action Steps from June 1 meeting: John acknowledged that the letter mailed to all participants from the June 1 meeting included the steps. These steps were printed in the Magnet article mailed to all households as well. Time was not taken to review the steps at this time.
- 5) Next Steps to be taken: Ed Bove reviewed the census demographic statistics showing a greater level of poverty in the town than expected. The census data shows that 50% of owner occupied houses have moved in since 2000. Also that the average commute is 30 minutes. Nora talked about making a net-working map a means to show out of -town connections so we do not appear as an isolated town. MS is a place one can work from. If we make a map we present a layered history of the where people work, where we draw resources, identify problems, such as what does winter bring regarding connections. John responded that

developing such would have to be result of the steering committee wanting to do this.

What we wanted to come out of this meeting was the formation of a steering committee. With no audience of volunteers tonight a steering committee is not going to happen. One of the first things the steering committee must do is to apply for a municipal planning grant. What the purpose for the grant must be the decision of the steering committee. Tom gave some examples of how some towns have used the grant. Ed Bove gave examples as well and stated just what the grantee is asking. A discussion followed on the lack of residents to handle all the volunteer needs the town has, and all the town vacancies that exist at present, and how this demands impacts the PC's request to create an organization for creative economy.

A suggestion was made that the Planning Commission put forward an application for a municipal planning grant and get this to the SB within the next few weeks. The commission will have to discuss this further.

Adjournment: 8:13 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen McCormack