

Town of Richmond
Planning Board Public Meeting
Taylor-Van Brocklin Building

April 14, 7:00 PM

Final

Member Present	Member Absent
Doug Smith (Chairman)	Joe Norman
Doug Bersaw (Selectman Rep)	William Daniels (Alt Selectman Rep)
Melissa Axtman (Alternate)	Brad Grinstead
Greg Butko (Vice Chairman)	
Thomas Glod	
Lisa Traeger (Secretary)	
Jackie Kensen (Alternate)	

Public Attendants:

Public Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM By Doug Smith.

- 1) Mail: SWRP letter passed around.
- 2) Melissa Axtman seated for Brad Grinstead; Jackie Kensen seated for Joe Norman
- 3) New Business: This meeting was scheduled specifically to the Master Plan review and update.
 - a) Doug Bersaw suggested moving the standard meeting time from 6PM to 7:PM; this will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.
 - b) Melissa Axtman presented AI document suggesting purpose of Planning Board for general discussion.
- 4) Old Business
 - a) Draft Minutes final review for 4/7/2026 on hold.
 - b) Master Plan:
 - i) The Board was reminded this is a special meeting, dedicated to review the Master Plan
 - ii) Doug Smith discussed an AI generated summary based upon Survey Monkey Excel sheet.
 Top results included:
 - a. Zoning vs. Land Use; Friction
 - b. Wetland restrictions vs not; Friction
 - c. Housing vs Rural; prefer low impact
 - d. Economic Growth; minimal
 - e. Low Taxes
 - f. Over all, maintain current status; not expand
 - g. Recreation Trails; wanted.
 - iii) Motion made by Doug Smith to add a third meeting each month on the second Tuesday of each month designated to the Master Plan. Seconded by Doug Bersaw. Traeger, Y; Axtman, Y; Bersaw, Y; Glod, Y; Butko, Y; Smith, Y; Motion Carries.
 - iv) cursory review of current MP chapters for inclusion or deletion, noting all kept chapters will be rewritten:
 - a. Introduction: Add Historic reference to here;
 - b. Summary of Recommendations derived from final, updated chapters (update)

- c. Vision and Land Use required by law.
 - d. Historical; Remove (add to introduction)
 - e. Energy; focus on Solar, Wind and Micro Hydrology. Rewrite.
 - f. Housing and Neighborhoods; keep
 - g. Traffic and Transportation (keep transportation particularly Road Maintenance with an eye to a Capital Improvement plan for current and long time, future road improvements)
 - h. Utility and Public Service; remove.
 - i. Community Facilities, Education, and structure of Town Government; keep but deleting sections no longer relevant (such as Police and post office)
 - j. Economic Development; Keep
 - k. Natural Resources; keep
 - l. Natural Hazards, remove
 - m. Regional concerns, Address elsewhere, we do not need a standalone chapter
 - n. **(I see no comment on Community design)**
 - o. Open Space, Recreation, Conservation
 - p. Implementation.
 - q. Update Appendix with current, appropriate RSA
 - v) Create an Outline and/or rough wording for next meeting Chapter 1-5.
 - vi) Doug Smith generated AI MP wording for review; Board to compare AI version vs. Current MP with proposed change for next MP meeting.
 - vii) Energy chapter (Currently Section I) first discussed:
 - a. No commercial farms; wind or solar.
 - b. Rewrite paragraph #1.
 - c. Encourage small scale wind or solar (height to be discussed) to supplement current energy usage
 - a. Residential Accessory vs. Commercial or Utility Scale.
 - b. Cluster zone potential to share Accessory
 - d. Verify wording to remain RSA compliant.
6. Other
- i) Motion to adjourn by Melissa Axtman; seconded by Doug Bersaw, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:10 PM,

Respectfully Submitted,
 Lisa Traeger