

**Minutes from Downtown 2020 Committee Meeting January 15, 2013  
Room # 309 at 8:30 AM**

In Attendance: Lou Gagliano (chair), Dan Kail, Ken Bernhard, and Criag Rebecca Schiavone,

Absent: Gerry Kagan, Robert Jacobs, and Valerie Smith-Malin

Summary of Minutes

1. Minutes of the meeting of 1/2/13 was reviewed and approved without change.

2. Discussions began on the two consulting proposals from Wallace, Roberts and Todd (WRT) and Buckhurst, Fish and Jacquemart (BFJ). Copies of both reports were available and circulated during the meeting. Chairman pointed to the summary schedule, prepared previously and distributed to the Committee ahead of the meeting, which compared by functional area the two proposals. On balance the group following a number of interchanges and comments came to the conclusion that the WRT proposal although higher in cost seemed to be the proposal that delivered the better program and stronger Master Planning effort.

Discussions followed as to how best to reduce if possible the costs of the engagement. Based upon comments from the First Selectman, Gordon Joseloff, and the Chairman of the Board of Finance, Avi Kaner, it was agreed that the Committee would contact both consulting groups and see if any cost reductions were possible by using previous studies base data and consulting work including the earlier study done by BFJ. The Chair and Committee member Dan Kail agreed to contact both consulting groups following the conclusion of the meeting.

3. Discussions moved to a final review of the Committee's status report, which the Chairman had previously distributed to the Committee. Copies were circulated to those who needed them. The report was approved with the addition of the section from the WRT report which was titled "Why a Downtown Plan is Needed". This section was to be added as Attachment 1 and the Chair was authorized to issue the letter.

4. The conclusions of the Committee's status report were reviewed with the group in attendance. The most important was that the First Selectman immediately requests a special budget allocation of \$175,000 from the Board of Finance for the consultant's retention. The Committee would add to this amount the \$50,000 already obtained in commitments to fund the Master Planning process. The First Selectman in attendance agreed to make this submission as soon as he was in receipt of the status report and had reviewed its contents.

5. The Chairman also pointed out, as is also noted in the status report, that the Committee requests the Selectman to extend the Committees Charge for another year as the present Charge expires March 31, 2013.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.