

Our Town-Our Future

Minutes

Ad Hoc Core Committee Meeting

October 21, 2014

1. **Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm**
2. Present: Ray Fenn, Loretta Wrobel, Mike Gantick, Richard Williams, Mike Zambo, Guest- John Filchak
3. **Approved of minutes October 8, 2014**
4. **Mike Zambo asked to address the Committee-** Mike wanted to make sure we were all on the same page as he has had some residents stop by and express concern about what the Stakeholders Meeting may yield as outcomes. Looking for common ground where we can get to a point where the Citizens can say “yes we want this”. Mike provided copies of 1998 Town Survey and 1999 Economic Development Opportunities Study (EDOS) and referenced the 2009 Warrentonville and West Ashford GVI concept meeting as efforts to create a Vision for Ashford. Mike also noted that the 1999 EDOS stated that “ **Until a common vision is developed of what acceptable economic development will look like in Ashford, any proposed economic development activity that is perceived to have the likelihood of changing the character of Ashford will be the target of significant opposition**’ . He said it is and will be very important to keep this in mind as we undertake the Our Town –Our Future initiative in order to not turn off people; need to make this a positive process.
5. **Discussion of how the meeting with stakeholders should proceed:** Committee discussed the power point presentation that John Filchak had put together. It was agreed that the number and detail of the slides needed to be reduced. Committee discussed What Questions should be asked. Committee discussed six potential Questions: 1.) What do you like about Ashford?; 2.) What do you not like about Ashford?; 3.) What is most important to you?; 4.) What do you see as Ashford’s future-5 years-10 years from now?; 5.) What should not be changed?; 6.0 What should be improved? John to redo Power point and provide his idea on questions and send out for Committee members to review before next meeting.
Committee briefly discussed overall agenda for Stakeholders meeting to be used as guide, not handed out (see Draft Stakeholders Meeting Agenda)
6. **Ray to check with DPW Joe about room setup. Ray to get costs /arrangements on refreshments Mike Zambo said Town would pay.**
7. **Committee members asked to continue to spread the word. John Philchak offered November 7th TV show to promote Stakeholders meeting. John to provide 2 Flip Charts for meeting.**

8. Next Meeting –November 5at **7:30** pm-Mike G. to make arrangements

9. Adjournment—8:40 pm