

## Town of Shelburne

### Selectboard Retreat 5/13/19

Present: Jerry Storey, Chair; Jaime Heins, Vice Chair; Colleen Parker, Mary Kehoe, Mike Ashooh; Lee Krohn, Town Manager; attendees Chris Kent, Steven Antinozzi, Don Porter, Jeff McBride, Jane & Tom Zenaty, Susan & David McLellan, Dean Pierce (Town Planner), Lisa Scagliotti (Shelburne News), Jason Grignon (PC Chair), Peter Keating (CCRPC), Kate Lalley, Jeff Zweber, Anne Bentley.

The retreat was called to order at 5:37 P.M.

Site host Craig Stevens of Wild Hart Distillery was introduced, thanked for hosting, and spoke of his business and the importance of sense of place and collaboration; "it's not just about good gin".

Motion by Heins to approve the agenda; seconded by Ashooh and approved unanimously.

There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Review of Selectboard priorities from last year's retreat: a long list was reviewed, and many have either been accomplished or are underway at this time, and some have been tabled or shelved based on legal advice, priorities, or resource constraints. It was understood that this will always be a dynamic list, ever evolving, to be checked and adjusted as matters are resolved and new issues arise. These should also reflect Town Plan recommendations, municipal infrastructure needs, and of course, budgetary considerations.

Stormwater remains a key issue. Updates on the dog park and other matters were offered.

Walkable/Bikeable Shelburne: ... Karen Yacos, former Jericho town planner, now Exec. Dir. Of Local Motion, offered insights about the importance of a sense of place for residents, businesses, and visitors; how bike/ped strategies and concepts can be an important part of that, and will help define who you are as a community, and who wants to come here. She then facilitated discussion among the Board and residents.

What does walkable/bikeable mean? Ideas, questions, and issues included:

Desire to feel safe

how to move forward in a comprehensive manner

current focus on the village; what's applicable elsewhere?

help keep attractive to younger population

safe route to school...80% can ride/walk?

need for physical separation of bike/ped and motor vehicles?

use infrastructure to create village "feel"

speed or violation enforcement?

Concern about motorists not stopping at stop signs

Seek to take over Shelburne Road as a Class 1 highway? May create opportunities as well as increased costs. Perhaps VTrans would allow more flexibility than currently believed, possibly allowing Town design creativity while maintaining as a State highway?

Importance of placemaking...

speed? safety? public realm as front door of the village...infrastructure...

need to solve within overall context and vision.

need to allow greater density to build critical mass

have vision (Town Plan) - need to start implementing?

Regional Commission can help with some analyses

Importance of quick successes -- what can be solved quickly?

Need for east-west connectivity for most of population north of LaPlatte River... to rec facilities

Overall connectivity.

if agree on vision, how implement via operations? infrastructure investments?

Green Infrastructure as multi-dimensional... also helpful for bike/ped/speed control?

Barriers? budget... political will, "pop up" demonstration projects, frame as quality of life

how keep conversation moving in light of multiple other priorities?

long range planning focus

link open space protection with paths/access?

Bike share program linking School to Museum to the Farms? extend sidewalk from Museum to Shelburne Green?

With plenty of ideas on the table at the moment, it was agreed to move on to item 8 on the agenda, Town Plan recommendations, setting priorities, how to blend into the budget development process.

As arose during the Town Plan hearings, questions arose as to how best to organize and prioritize the wide array of recommendations presented in the Plan, and who is best positioned to do that. Do we start with those allied with the Town Manager/Selectboard Goals and Objectives, start with those of low cost, or long term ramifications, or those more popular at the moment? However determined, the implementation may occur by directive, and/or by budget. How to prioritize in ways that last beyond present persons/current Board members?

Try to get better at connections... do we connect back to the plan in developing SB agendas or decisions? Include Town Plan refs to agenda items? Enlist committees to review and offer priorities? Plan as foundation for decisionmaking? The idea of needing an implementation table was raised again. Might help with synergy between different ideas and goals. Best for long term... "what would we like to look back to say we did well"? Staff were asked to work on this.

Selectboard Roles/Responsibilities: the intent was a conscious consideration of how we work together in service to our community, how relationships are working between the Board, Manager, and staff...just to be sure we're working well amongst ourselves. Clarify process for information sharing and agenda development... Balance of efficiency and discussion? Insight on agenda development... Board would find it helpful to to receive more advance notice of upcoming agendas and major issues

Challenges of the open meeting law and ability to discuss in advance issues and agenda development. Perhaps an online calendar might help. Use of a 'consent agenda' was offered as a possible way to help streamline meetings and have more time to discuss issues.

Finally, the Town Manager/Selectboard Goals and Objectives were reviewed. All agreed these remained relevant and mission-critical. The "changing circumstances" clause was noted as important to keep in mind.

With no other business, all were thanked for appearing and participating. Motion by Kehoe to adjourn; seconded by Parker and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Lee Krohn.

---

For the Selectboard

---

Date