

## **Cultural Resources Sub-Committee Meeting**

**Monday, May 19, City Hall**

**2:00 - 3:00 PM**

### **Meeting Notes**

Present: Lois Honegger, Patty St. John, Elena Bachrach, Ghlee Woodworth, Melissa Volkey, Sara White  
Absent: Beth Falconer

The group reviewed and discussed the various master plans of other communities in MA, that were provided by Lois prior to the meeting, including those of Gloucester, Northampton, Georgetown and Amherst. It was agreed that the layout/format of the Northampton plan would be the structural outline that would be used in developing our plan. The outline is as follows:

- Goals
- Objectives
- Strategies & Actions

Ghlee and Sara will work on the Historic section

Melissa and Ghlee will work on the Natural Resources section

Elena (visual) and Beth (performing) will work on the Arts section

Lois, Patty and Elena will work on the Business & Tourism piece

It was understood that these areas are not necessarily mutually exclusive and there will be some overlap as the sections are developed. I.e. Rail trail and artwork along it

Lois stressed the importance of referencing only Newburyport institutions/resources in our plan as we are only working on a plan for Newburyport. (A list of resources was compiled at the last meeting and will be expanded as needed. The feeling is that this is important to have this outlined in plan as point of reference.) While we do work in partnership on many occasions, care must be taken to not include surrounding towns such as Newbury, Amesbury etc in the discussion/written plan.

Sara presented a suggestion for the opening statement and there was consensus that it indeed would be used.

The consensus is that Newburyport is already a treasure trove of cultural and natural resources. Our mission is to preserve what we already have and ensure its significance and growth into the future. Our end goal/ recommendation is to have an official Cultural Resources Department within the city with its

own Executive Director. It was agreed however that this would not be presented upfront, but rather the case made as to why one is needed first.

It was agreed that Marketing will play a huge role in achieving our goal for the master plan. There are many individual organizations in the city already operating independently, cooperatively and successfully but currently no comprehensive plan or infrastructure to manage all these resources collectively.

***Important dates:***

May 27 (Morning) – at the latest. Each group’s draft must be emailed to Sarah White. Sara will then compile each group’s contributions

May 27, 2 PM – Full committee meeting to discuss each section

June 11 (PM) – Draft Presentation made to city. Public discussion, Q&A . This is ***not*** the final document