

Temple Hop Grant Steering Committee Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Pam Kingston at 7:03 pm. August 7, 2023 at The Temple Town Hall Annex

Attendance

Present:

Pam Kingston, Chair; Carter Sartell, Vice Chair; Russ Huntley, Secretary; Sean Radcliff, Lilliane LeBel, Marie Lennartz, Dan Cournoyer, Via Zoom: Cathy Joly

Guests

Carol Ogilvie, Consultant

Christine Robidoux, Temple Planning Board Chair

Absent:

Alan Fox

Ivy Vann, Consultant

Approval of Draft Minutes

Pam presented the July 10, 2023 minutes for discussion and approval:

The minutes were reviewed.

Motion to approve July 10, 2023 Minutes as presented

Motion: Sean Radcliff Second: Lilliane LeBel

Approved by vote with all in favor

Old Business

1. Approval of Marie Lennartz membership request to Steering Committee

The committee is informed that Marie's membership has been approved.

2. Acceptance of Clay Lennartz's resignation from Steering Committee.

Committee informed that Clay has resigned due to scheduling conflicts and is now part of the HGSG

3. Economic Environment Chapter review

Carol reviews the economic environment chapter (Appendix I).

Key point: Home businesses have doubled 86 businesses listed.

Group discussion key points:

Lilliane asks what the definition is of “principal use”. Carol indicates that principal use means the only or most significant use of the property. With a Home-Based Business, the proprietor lives on the same property as the main business office.

Christine indicates that businesses may be missing from the list. Her husband’s business, for example, is not listed. Carol indicates that the list was compiled from sources such as Yellow Pages, Google maps, Google search, etc., and businesses that don’t advertise through searchable media may not be represented on the list. Discussion follows regarding Home based business vs. remote office work for business located/headquartered in other towns. Is there a means to track that type of employment.

Pam closes the discussion and states that anyone on the committee who has knowledge of other businesses in town that are not represented on the list should forward that data to Carol by Friday, August 11, 2023.

New Business

1. Review synopsis of Community Engagement event held on July 4, 2023 & Library Event held on July 11, 2023

The committee is informed that Ivy has compiled the data from the 4th and 11th events. Committee reviews compiled data presented by Carol. (Questions and responses - Appendix II)

Discussion follows.

Key Points:

The data is from a very small sample. We need to gather more data to make this meaningful.

Question 1 should be revised to ask:

Do you think there is a housing shortage in Temple. If YES - Which types?, If NO – Why?

Question 2 appears to not provide much data

We should remove this question

Question 3 seems OK

Question 4 seems least helpful as most of the listed items are beyond the control of the committee or town government. What is useful is that even though the sample is small, it appears that local and state codes and regulations have little negative affect on housing availability and affordability.

Question 5 was not discussed

There is concern that the questions are vague and don’t really help solve any housing problems or point us in a direction to speak to the public regarding goals or changes. Another concern is the small data sample may not represent a majority and doesn’t provide the committee with enough information to make decisions.

Carol indicates that the questions are not meant to solve any problems but are intended as thought provoking so that later on, during focus groups and hearings, the temple residents will have been thinking about housing and what, if any changes they would like to see.

Pam asks if Ivy can send some guidance regarding community engagement questions.

2. Additional Opportunities to reach a greater number of residents

Dan provided a number of responses from citizens he has interviewed. We will look at data gathered from those responses at the next meeting.

Marie indicated that there were no responses to the questions at the potluck, but there were about 16-20 interviews at the coffee hour.

3. Harvest Festival

The tables have been secured for the event. We need to decide what we will do at the Harvest festival. Christine indicates we shouldn't feel rushed to sum up our findings. Carter indicates that the festival might be better utilized as another community engagement venue. The committee feels that would be appropriate, given the greater number of residents that attend the festival. This should give us a much bigger sample for the questionnaire. Russ offers that we should gather photographs of various housing options to display at the harvest festival. Sean indicates that Ivy's card should also be utilized.

Next Steps/Other discussions

Christine presents her NH HOP Grant Summer Check in on July 216, 2023 and asks if we want to do an application to request funding for Regulatory Development. The committee responds in the affirmative. Pam will work with Christine. Christine will check with Grant Committee Tuesday August 8, 2023 in order to determine if monies may be utilized for GIS conversion.

The question of when to present our findings is raised. The consensus is after the Harvest Festival and Ivy's event, we should hold a 3rd event and use more specific questions from data gathered previously. We should have a town forum after the 3rd event and a hearing after the forum.

We should continue to gather data from residents and forward the data to Pam.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Lilliane LeBel Second: Carter Sartell

Approved by vote with all in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Appendix I

Economic Environment Chapter Draft
(Attachment)

Appendix II

Temple Public Event results
(Attachment)

Appendix III

NH HOP Grant Summer Check in on July 216, 2023
(Attachment)