

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON, CT  
The Gateway Committee**

**Present**

Jeff Apuzzo  
Amy Suffredini  
Augusto Russell  
Peter Bagdigian

**Staff:**

Kathy Eagen  
Rose Ponte

**A. Call to Order.**

a. The Meeting was called to order at 5:02p.m.

**B. Public Comments.**

Katie Bradley thanked the subcommittee for organizing the weekend workshops and expressed that they were both positive and well attended.

**C. Communications**

An e-blast was sent to every participant, thanking them for their attendance and outlining a future timeline for the committee's work. Jeff Apuzzo thought it was well written and very timely.

A letter was received by Ruth Grobe outlining several items related to ADA accessibility issues. She requested these items be considered and incorporated in the concept plans.

**D. Approval March 19, 2015 minutes**

A motion was made to approve the March 5, 2015 minutes.  
(Suffredini/ Bagdigian)

**i. Approved Unanimously.**

**E. New Business**

**1. To review the Farmington March 26 and 29 workshops and the walking tour.**

Several comments were received from the committee members

- All felt the workshops ended on a high note
- The partnerships that were formed were very valuable
- The turnout was great
- One of the greatest accomplishments was the public involvement that took place throughout all three events.

Kathy Eagen stated that from her perspective there were three important outcomes from the weekend:

- There was tremendous amount of public participation
- There was a very positive collaboration with Miss Porter's School.
- The town has made progress addressing the ADA accessibility of our residents. Although there is still a long way to go, much progress has been made in this area.

Amy Suffredini noted that it is very important for the committee to take the next steps in a timely fashion and continue the momentum established by the weekend's events. She saw new people getting involved in town government and she felt it was imperative that we keep them involved. She also noted that Jeff Apuzzo was a great facilitator throughout the weekend.

## **2. To determine next steps.**

Moving forward the committee concluded the following:

1. Staff will communicate with the consultants the Committee's expectations concerning the deliverables. The deliverables will include concept plans which incorporate the ideas presented throughout the workshops as well as the consultant's ideas for the study area. The deliverables should include a list of recommendations for the town to implement.
2. After a review by the committee, the plans will be on display at Town Hall and at the Farmington Library.
3. One of the plans should show lighter density as an alternative.
4. In order to prevent any future development from occurring before the plans for the area are finalized, the committee will investigate and explore the option of the town issuing a development moratorium for the study area.
5. The committee will explore if any design guidelines for the area exist.
6. The committee will prioritize the next steps, and organize them in manageable phases.
7. The committee will determine the town's role in accomplishing the next steps.
8. Bill Warner will guide the committee concerning design guidelines, and development options.
9. Staff will regroup and recommend next steps to the committee by the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Attachment 1

The committee noted three common themes emerging from the workshop discussions. They include:

1. The importance of riverfront recapture.
2. The importance of 763 Farmington Ave.
3. The importance of exploring the highest and best use for 781 Farmington Ave.

**F. Old Business. N/A**

**G. Adjournment.**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m.  
(Russell/ Bagdigian)

**i. Approved Unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose Ponte  
Economic Development Director

CC: Sub-Committee Members  
Bill Warner, Town Planner  
Kathleen A. Eagen, Town Manager  
Paula Ray, Town Clerk  
Deb Bull, Administrative Assistant