

**Town of Marlborough  
All Boards Meeting  
Marlborough Elementary School  
April 7, 2005  
7:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Nancy Bader called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the community room of Elmer Thienes–Mary Hall School. Sharon Reiner and Bill Black were also in attendance, as was Peter Hughes, Director of Planning & Development and Tom Giola, Director of Physical Services.

**2. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

The following residents were in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board/Commission</u>
Al Covino	RHAM BOE
Linda Cherry	BOE/Library Board
Jim Cherry	RHAM BOE
Joanne Goode	CDAC
Barbara Lazzari	Parks & Rec.
Nancy Baker	Director, Parks & Rec.
Bill Vishnosky	Park & Rec.
Joe LaBella	Board of Finance
Donna Mosher	Board of Finance
Gale Busemeyer	Conservation
Jack Bray	Conservation
Brad Buck	BOE
Emma Lou Cranfield	BOE
C. Ned Hickey	CDAC
Steven Oborski	ZBA
Bob Jackson	ZBA
Cheryl Brodell	ZBA
Walter Jones	Zoning
Catherine Gaudinski	Board of Finance
Bob Gaudinski	Planning
Greg Servodidio	EDC
Bill Mogensen	Planning/CDAC

**3. PUBLIC SURVEY OVERVIEW**

Nancy Bader introduced Jerry Lindsley, president of the Center for Research & Public Policy (CRPP). Mr. Lindsley gave a brief overview of the public survey results. He first explained the methodology used in the survey. He said that the survey was sent to every resident in town (2,745 surveys) and CRPP received back 1,165 surveys. This was a phenomenal return rate of 42.4%. Typical response rates range from 5-20%. Mr. Lindsley said the Center's goal is to develop questions that are fair, balanced, impartial and objective. The survey is statistically sound, with a +/-3% margin of error.

Mr. Lindsley noted that municipal departmental ratings strive for an 80% positive rating. In the case of Marlborough's survey, approximately ½ of town departments received approval ratings below 80%. This indicates a need for additional research in these departments. Mr. Lindsley noted that one way to gather more information is to develop surveys that can be handed out in the department.

Mr. Lindsley reviewed some of the main highlights from the survey. 96% of Marlborough's residents responded that the quality of life in town is good. Overall, there is public support for the library, walking trails, open space and road improvement. With respect to commercial development, there is general support for restaurants, a pharmacy, a video store, a gym and a small hardware store. There is not general support for a large store. Residents are most concerned about taxes. Mr. Lindsley stated that it is important for community leaders to understand the data and to look at sub-groups within the community when analyzing the data. He said that his firm will prepare any cross-tabulations requested by the town. Board and commission members were asked to filter their requests through either Nancy Bader or Peter Hughes.

Nancy Bader stated that CDAC was formed a year ago for a two-year period. CDAC recommended that the public survey be done to gather feedback from residents to help with the planning process. Mrs. Bader said that the CDAC group, the Planning group and others will review the survey data and make recommendations to the board of selectmen about capital projects over the next 5-10 years. These groups will also help work on the development of the town center.

Peter Hughes stated that a consultant has been chosen to work with the town on the plan for the town center. He explained that the CDAC and Planning commissions worked together, interviewing various companies for the job. The firm that was chosen is Milone & MacBroom. The next step is for the town to negotiate a scope of services with the firm. This will include re-zoning of the town center area, lighting, landscaping, design regulations, etc. Mr. Hughes explained that the ultimate goal is to tie in the areas of the school, the town center and Blish Park. There will be public meetings on this subject. He explained that the town has been approved for a \$275,000 grant for streetscape improvements. Funds will hopefully be received around May/June.

Mr. Hughes then gave a brief update on the sewer project. The project is at 35% design stage. The design shows the sewer route and the location of the pump stations. There will be a public forum on May on the sewer project. Mr. Hughes explained that the town received approval for the design money from the state bonding commission. However, it will likely take 3-9 months to obtain the money. In the meantime, the town has allocated \$394,000 towards work on the project, which will take the consultants through May or June. Construction is still scheduled to begin in a year. The town will first receive bids for the construction work, and then go to the state for construction money.

With respect to the business park, Mr. Hughes noted that negotiations are moving forward. The town hopes to close on the purchase of the largest piece of property in May.

The meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Sciano