

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
TOWN MANAGER GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SETTING MEETING
MINUTES JANUARY 8, 2018
APPROVED**

BOS Members Present: Joshua A. Degen; Barry A. Pease

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Mr. Degen called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

Mr. Haddad reviewed his 2017 goals. He said he was continuing to work with on the Senior Center and would like to leave that on for another year. Mr. Degen and Mr. Pease agreed. Mr. Haddad said he didn't think the audit needed to be one of his goals any longer. Mr. Degen said he thought it should remain seeing it was one of the Board's goals for the year. Mr. Pease said it could maybe be reworded that Mr. Haddad assists the department heads with the recommended suggestions of the audit. He suggested developing a way to track, as a more measurable goal, with quarterly updates on the audit suggestions. Mr. Degen said the education goal should stay. Mr. Haddad said he didn't have time to commit to a course with so much going in in both his professional and personal lives at this time. Mr. Degen asked him to attend the MMA on January 19th and attend 2 seminars as a compromise. Mr. Pease said he was thinking about making the economic development goal a broader approach. How to attract businesses to Groton in support of what Groton might become. Mr. Pease suggested finding ways to increase commercial traffic in the Town. Mr. Degen suggested working in conjunction with department heads to make Groton a business attractive community. Mr. Haddad said that with the new sewer system coming on line in the spring he wanted to work with Shaw's to get the rest of the plaza developed. Mr. Haddad also talked about potential marijuana dispensaries and potential money to be made out there if it were to be regulated and permitted in Groton. Mr. Pease asked who Mr. Haddad had to lean on for support with all these things as the Town continued to grow. Mr. Haddad said he had great staff support to get the job done but appreciated him asking that.

Mr. Degen talked about a suggestion they received from a resident. Mr. Pease said that as much as they would like to think, they really didn't have the public's trust. Mr. Pease said they could, as one of Mr. Haddad's goals, ask that he be an advisor that constantly questions the direction the Board was going. Mr. Degen said he didn't agree with that. Mr. Pease thought they might lose the ability to govern effectively if people didn't feel like they (the Board) could be trusted. Mr. Degen said he thought that could be done through continued communication. He said that they should codify RSS feeds to receive meeting updates and possible monthly updates from the Board.

Mr. Degen said they could have a blanket goal to work with the Board to complete their goals. Mr. Pease asked about a goal to help Groton and the Board work through medical and recreational marijuana regulations and permitting. Mr. Haddad suggested adding OPEB as one of his goals also. Mr. Degen said it should be worded to look at the municipal side only. Mr. Pease suggested the Town Manager's support of affordable housing. Mr. Degen said that Mr. Haddad had always been very supportive in working with the Affordable Housing Trust. He said he didn't think this should be added as a goal.

Mr. Pease asked Mr. Haddad if there was anything he wanted to take on as a pet project. Mr. Haddad said he didn't have anything in mind at the moment. He said he wanted to get through collective bargaining, designing the senior center project, and economic development first. Mr. Degen asked about working toward merging Groton and Dunstable. Mr. Haddad said that needed to be worked on taking baby steps. He said the first thing would be to take over EMS for Dunstable.

Mr. Haddad said he would draft the goals and get them to Mr. Degen and Mr. Pease for review for possible discussion on January 16th.

Mr. Degen adjourned the meeting at 5:48pm.

Approved: _____

respectfully *submitted*,
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 1/29/18