

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRP), a subcommittee of the Planning Board, and which is made of 3 members, is planning to work with the RPC to develop a Forum for a Visioning Session for the Master Plan. As stated by Planning and Zoning Administrator, Kim Reed, a Visioning session is coming up once the budget is approved in August.

Steven Borne, a member of the public, stated that the board should reach out to Dominique Winebaum given all the background history/recommendations she has provided about the Master Plan. Steven Borne made the recommendation not to do anything until we agree to do a best in class Master Plan. He suggested to get an outside firm and to do it right as opposed to relying on grants and do a piece meal approach. He stated that many issues/problems facing Rye could have been prevented if Rye had a sound and a comprehensive Master Plan.

Chair Pat Losik stated that Julie Labranche from RPC has been straight out and that the scope of the work would be \$8,000, if they were to go ahead with a Visioning in order to update the Visioning chapter. Chair Pat Losik also referred to recommendations made by Julie Labranche during the adoption of past updates of the Master Plan:

Ms. LaBranche stated she thinks it is a great process for a community to go through a comprehensive activity. Exeter is just finishing up theirs. The trend now with communities is to verge away from the topical chapter master plan framework and go into themes. The themes are merged from the listening sessions and discussions the groups have. Things like sustainability, public health and safety. They are large lofty goals and all the stuff gets underneath it in a way that can be integrated. Topical chapters repeat content from one chapter to the next chapter. Its an older way of doing a master plan and it is a bit clunky **(Planning Board minutes, 10,12, 2017).**

*Editor's Note:* The Exeter Master Plan was prepared by the Horsley Witten Group, Inc. The Town of Stratham used the same firm to update its Master Plan. Both the Exeter and the Stratham Master Plan are best in class. <https://www.exeternh.gov/planning-sustainability/master-plan>