Public Space Landscape Design Workshop

September 19, 2018
Opportunity

- Reconnect **Triangle Park** to the Village Green
- Connect Main Street and the Marble Works through **Printer’s Alley**
- Design truly usable public spaces in our central downtown
Village Green Pre-Construction
Summer Workshop: “Any Idea Is a Good Idea”

Tonight’s Meeting: “Focus the Plan”
- Space Limitations
- Project Funding Limitations
- Municipal Concerns: Funding & Sustainability
- Designing Flexible Spaces
- NEPA Restrictions

Who Makes the Decision?
- Middlebury Selectboard
- What about the 6,970 residents of our town who aren’t here tonight?

Reality Check
Introductions
Key Takeaways from Summer Workshop
Community Needs & Uses

- Connect Public Spaces
- Assembly Space
- Event Space/Pavilion
- Playground
- Information Kiosk
- Games
- Food/Vendor Space
- Public Restroom/Water Fountain
- Lunch/Meeting Space
- Water Features
- Remember Our History
Village Green
Village Green

- Connect the park to the Town Green and the rest of town
- Ensure connections to Riverfront park and Town Green are useful
- Maintain serenity of Church Memorial Garden
- Save and repurpose Ashlar Blocks
- Create Assembly Space
- Consider new view of Church
- Consider multi-tiered Landscaping
Village Green  Design Concept 1

- Symmetrical, curvilinear layout
- Central plaza with fountain on axis with Memorial Garden area
- Reflects community input for:
  - Connections to the street, Green and Printer’s Alley
  - A mix of pavers and lawn for informal use
  - A large, continuous and flexible space using “circular design” that flows around the building
Village Green Design Concept 2

- Retain / Relocated Existing Shrub and Perennial Landscaping at Church
- Typical Seatwall Using Rough Cut Stone and Ashlar Block from Tunnel
- Deck Seating with Back Rest
- Native Perennial Garden
- Mid-Size Native Deciduous Trees
- Double-Sided 8’ Bench
- Area with Pavers (Pervious) or Concrete and Banding
- Retain Existing Honey Locust in Church’s Memorial Garden with Surround
- New Landscaping Around Church to Blend with Existing
- New Terrace / “Surround” Area
- Option for Raised Terrace with Movable or Fixed Seating
- Promenade of Pavers and/or Concrete with Banding
- Native Fountain Gardens with Native Perennials and Shrubs for Winter Color
- Restore Fountain and Surround
- 6’ Bench with Back, or Reuse and Match Existing Benches
- Entry Seatwall
Village Green  Design Concept 2

- Rectilinear layout with promenades across space delineated with historic blocks
- Green tree canopies in triangle area
- Reflects community input for:
  - Connections to the street, Green and Printer’s Alley
  - A variety of gathering and community spaces
  - Hardscape people places /sitting areas
  - Reference to history
  - New and different trees than elsewhere on the Green
Which do you prefer?

A. Vanilla Ice Cream
B. Chocolate Ice Cream
How do you envision using the Village Green Space?

A. Coffee/Lunch Break
B. Passive Recreation
C. Gathering/Meeting Place
D. Attendance at Organized Events
E. All of the Above
F. Other
Is Vendor Space (farmer’s market, food trucks, etc) important for the Village Green?
A. Yes
B. No
Do you prefer more green space or more hardscape in the Village Green?

A. More Green Space
B. More Hardscape
C. The concepts shown have it right.
Do the concepts presented accommodate the right sized public assembly space?

A. Yes

B. No
Which concept do you prefer?

A. Concept 1
B. Concept 2
C. Neither
Village Green  Open Discussion
Printer’s Alley
Printer’s Alley

- Create community space
- Performance or public assembly space
- Need a reason to go to Printer’s Alley
- Create Retaining Wall Terrace
- Functional Gateway connecting Main Street and Marble Works
Printer's Alley Design Concept 1

- Crosswalk to Park Entry
- Grass Surfacing with Stabilization Below
- Native Mid-Size Shade Trees
- Optional Low Hedges to Provide Buffer to Alley Stair / Steps / Seating
- Entry Plaza with Special Paving
- 1 or 2 Sided Swinging Bench
- Railing Down Center of Stairs
- Native Specimen Trees
- Typical Ashlar Block Seating
- Ashlar Block Seating / Surround
- Colored Light Posts with Option to Retract or Hang Panels for Event Backdrops (Roll Up Screen)
- Hardscape Area for Performances and Informal Use
Printer’s Alley  Design Concept 1

- Responds to a small scale space
- Incorporates type of uses observed when space was a temporary “pop-up park”
- Reflects community input for:
  - an informal space
  - a place where small gatherings or performances can be held
  - a “green” design that incorporates landscape
  - adjustable for different uses
Printer’s Alley Design Concept 2

- Informal layout creates dynamic in small scale space
- Sculptural and landscape elements interspersed with distinct sitting and small scale gathering spaces
- Reflects community input for:
  - Variety of seating options
  - Informal play that would invite children and families
  - Spaces for outdoor events
  - More “wild” than formal
  - Options for art, displays, and place for food carts
How do you envision using the Printer’s Alley Park space?

A. Coffee/Lunch Break
B. Passive Recreation
C. Gathering/Meeting Place
D. Attendance at Organized Events
E. All of the Above
F. Other
Is it preferable to have larger open space or multiple discrete spaces?

A. Larger Open Spaces
B. Smaller Multiple Discrete Spaces
Is Event/Assembly Space in Printer’s Alley Important to You?

A. I favor event/assembly space

B. I don’t favor event/assembly space
Do you prefer more green space or more hardscape in Printer’s Alley?

A. More Green Space
B. More Hardscape
Do either of these concepts provide an appropriate connection between Main Street area and Marble Works/Waterfront Park?

A. Concept 1
B. Concept 2
C. Both
D. Neither
Which Concept do you prefer?

A. Concept 1
B. Concept 2
C. Neither
Printer’s Alley Open Discussion
Next Steps

- Review responses and input from tonight
- Request additional input through community survey (have we asked the right questions?)
- Revise and refine designs
- Present to Selectboard