

Become part of Damariscotta's history through planning charrette



Heart and Soul Damariscotta will conduct a charrette.

For those wanting a say in Damariscotta's future, the town is holding a planning charrette to find out how residents want the town to grow. This intensive four-day event will bring together citizens, planners, designers, business owners, property owners, elected officials, youth, parents and others to collaborate on a vision for future growth and development.

The design team of Bill Dennis and Associates will work with the citizens of Damariscotta from Oct. 22 - 26 at the Round Top Barn.

Beginning Thurs., Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. with a kick-off workshop, people are encouraged to offer ideas and advice. There will be drop in times the following days and scheduled meetings on specific topics with stakeholders during

these days as well.

Finally, on Mon., Oct. 26, the team will make the final presentations to the community beginning at 6:30 p.m.

A charrette is an intensive planning session that provides a forum for ideas and offers the unique advantage of giving immediate feedback to the designers. More importantly, it allows everyone who participates to be a mutual author of the plan.

On Tues., Sept. 22, there will be a kick-off pre-charrette meeting at the Round Top Barn to introduce the process. Please come to share ideas about the event and visions for Damariscotta and help make the charrette a success.

This charrette, part of the two-year Heart and Soul Community Planning Process, is sponsored by the Damariscotta Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) - a committee appointed by the Damariscotta Board of Selectmen to gather local citizen input on planning issues. The Heart and Soul process is a partnership between the town, the Orton Family Foundation and Friends of Midcoast Maine.

So, mark the calendars, bring a friend or neighbor and let all voices be heard. Few towns have the opportunity to come together and determine a course for growth. So join in to become a part of history and choose the collective future before the future chooses us.

Important meetings at the Round Top Barn

Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 6:30 p.m. - pre-charrette planning meeting.

Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. - Charrette kick off

Friday-Sun., Oct. 23, 24, 25 - drop in if the lights are on

Monday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. - final presentation to citizens

All meetings will be at the Round Top Barn on Bus. Rt. 1 in Damariscotta.

Learn more at www.damariscottame.com and sign up for the newsletter to stay informed. Contact Heart and Soul at any time with questions or to share opinions on the charrette or the Heart & Soul Community Planning process. Email dpac@damariscottame.com, call 380-4802 or drop in Mondays and Tuesdays at the Heart and Soul office at the Chamber of Commerce, Courtyard Street, Damariscotta.