ASHLAND PLANNING BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2012

Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 7:05

Present
Susan MacLeod, Frances Newton, Gordon McCormack Jr., Jeanette Stewart, Alternate
Elizabeth Cody
Absent with notice – Anthony Randall
Absent without notice: Robert Boyle
Guest: Mike Izard

Discussion of Draft Chapter 8, Economic Development
Section 8.1, Historical Perspective, needs to be updated to include information from 1990
through the present day. For example, a significant change in the town’s economy occurred
at the closing of the Packard mill in 2002. Some business names need updating as well.

A suggestion was made to refer to business street addresses rather than historical names
might ensure consistency over the years.

Use of the Master Plan document - The Master Plan serves as a blueprint for our current
situation and provides direction for moving forward with recommendations and
implementation plans.

Include a paragraph about small businesses rather than naming each one. This will ensure
that we don’t inadvertently leave one or more off and will remain current given the ebb and
flow of businesses in town.

Some of the recommendations were discussed. It was agreed that the ARA inventory is still
important as is the development of a TIF or Historic District

Chapter needs further input as to what the town is trying to accomplish; felt technical lingo
needed to be eliminated.

Natural Resources chapter is still a work in progress with the help of the Conservation
Commission

Last chapter to be worked on will be the Implementation Chapter.
Other Business

Minutes will be reviewed at the January meeting.