

MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 28, 2023 at 7:00 pm

On line via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Members Present: Bob Roemer, Panny Gerken, Stacia Downey, Mary Ciummo, Cia Boynton, Ken Troup, Ed Sterling

Others Present: Pam Harding, Olivia Knightly, Heather Gould, Aqsa Butt

Forum II Planning. Bob met with BSC last week to discuss the timing and venue for the upcoming Community Forum. Bob and BSC thought that weekends were too busy and that a weeknight might be preferred by younger demographics. Cia, Ken, and Ed thought that a Sunday would be better. Olivia noted that the Konveio survey respondents preferred weeknights. The consensus was that a Monday night was the least busy night, although Ken said he could not participate on a Monday. Child care would be provided at either preferred venue, either Florence Sawyer School or Davis Hall. After discussion, the group agreed to Monday October 23 from 7:00 until 8:30 or 9:00 at Florence Sawyer if possible. Bob said he would contact Joel Bates at Florence Sawyer. Ed will verify that Davis Hall is available if Florence Sawyer is not. [The next day Bob confirmed the use of the Florence Sawyer cafeteria on Monday October 23].

The group also agreed that a hybrid meeting would reach more people. Ken said he would check with Nicki at Bolton Access TV about live stream or Zoom of the meeting. Olivia noted that BSC has sophisticated Zoom capability that could also be employed. Ken agreed to set up a meeting of Pam, BSC, and Nicki to discuss options. [That meeting was held on October 2 where a plan was developed.]

The group then discussed some of the particulars of the forum. BSC will provide facilitators and various MPSC members. All agreed it will be important to spread the word and get residents to participate in the forum. Olivia walked through some the details in some slides she had prepared. There will be three or four color-coded groups that would discuss any or all of the master plan topics. Ways will be found to tie online participants to the meeting via Zoom so that they can also participate in discussions or raise questions. Information for forum participants (and others) will be made available online via Konveio.

Olivia had previously distributed to MPSC members the draft master plan goals. The members accepted the action to review the goals and provide comments to Pam Harding, preferably by October 6. Both the draft goals and the existing conditions write up are available in Google Docs where comments can be provided.

Aqsa showed the group a “crowd map” on Konveio which allows users to zoom into various spots on a map of Bolton and leave comments of concern or importance about master planning issues. It will be available at all times and will retain all comments made.

Returning to a discussion of getting participation in the forum, Bob said he would go back to the stakeholder lists he has to be sure we have email addresses for the key players who can help spread the word.

Bob noted that the grant request he applied to the state for getting consulting assistance from Randall Arendt was funded and that Pam just received Randall's proposal for reviewing the town's land use regulations and conducting a workshop on better planning for housing and preserving rural character.

Minutes. On a motion by Panny and seconded by Stacia, the minutes for the August 22, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously as amended with two corrections. Ken will send the revised approved minutes to Pam Harding.

Participants agreed that the next meeting will be Thursday October 19 via Zoom and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Approved on October 17, 2023