

MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 25, 2020 at 7:00 pm

On line via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Members Present: Cia Boynton, Mary Ciummo, Panny Gerken, Molly Myers, Bob Roemer, Ken Troup, Brian Boyle, Ed Sterling, Abby Ayotte, Chris Rogers, Megan Irvin, Mark Sprague, Stacia Downey

Others Present: Erica Uriarte,

After a motion by Panny and a second by Cia, the minutes of the May 28, 2020 meeting were approved without comments 8-0-0 and after an additional motion by Panny and a second by Ed, the minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting were approved without comment 8-0-0.

New Master Plan Steering Committee Member: Stacia Downey has agreed to be appointed a member of the MPSC, to work with Chris Roger on housing matters so that he can remain on the committee with shared duties. Panny moved and Chris Rogers seconded Stacia's appointment and she was approved 9-0-0.

Master Plan Survey Status: So far there have been 473 on-line surveys submitted with 30 hardcopies that need to be entered into Survey Monkey. With two days still available, we will put a reminder notice on our social media sites. In any case, the committee was pleased with the response. Leigh Shanney has agreed to help with analysis and display of the survey results. Ann Hurd has been invited to help, but has not yet committed.

Quarterly Report and Task Process: Bob Roemer noted that most of the task groups had submitted very useful information about what they have been doing and plan for the near future. Bob will be providing the report to the selectmen and Planning Board. He discussed the flow chart of the typical task process that he had distributed in advance of the meeting, noting the importance of obtaining current task information from comparable towns as well as regional agencies.

Master Plan Outline: Brian provided members with a proposed draft outline for the report in hopes it helps task groups in their efforts. He emphasized that the report needs to describe Bolton's current status which would be used for the baseline against which to discuss town needs and plans. Brian emphasized, and other members agreed, that Bolton lacks ethnic and racial diversity and this led to a wide-ranging and spirited discussion of housing and schools and how to improve diversity in the future. Members can provide comments, additions, and ideas to Brian and should consider the diversity issues as they work on their task groups.

Task Group Goals: The rest of the meeting was a review of the goals that had been submitted the previous two weeks by the task groups. Bob had provided in advance a synopsis of goals submitted to him and went down the list. A few comments of note about some goals are:

**Approved at July 23, 2020 meeting via Zoom participation by
AA, BB, CB, MC, SD, PG, MI, MM, BR, CR, ES, MS, KT (EU)**

- (climate) the goal to study the feasibility of an emergency shelter was viewed as overly aggressive to accomplish within just a few months
- (land use) it's been hard to track down a real person to discuss growth scenarios at New England Landscape, but we keep trying. Erica Uriarte and Rebecca Longvall are working on GIS layers in Bolton's GIS data and identifying gaps.
- (municipal services) Bob, Ed, and Erica will look into document management systems in other towns that Bolton could emulate.
- (open space and recreation) Parks and Rec is meeting with the various sports groups about their recreation needs; Erica is working on a fact sheet about The International and will distribute to members early next week
- (outreach) the group discussed holding a public forum about the survey and should identify key stakeholders to participate in a Zoom meeting. There was also a suggestion of participating in a festival or other social events in the fall to promote the results of the survey and progress on the master plan.

With no other business before the MPSC, Panny moved and Mark seconded that the meeting be adjourned. It was approved 11-0-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.