

Master Plan Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Joe Hutchinson at 7:06 PM

Members Present: Joe Hutchinson, Didi Chadran, SusanMary Redinger, Victor Norman
Liaison Present: Elaine Lazarus, Don Ludwig, Jaye Waldron
Guest: Bill Scanlan, PB Planner

Joe informed the committee that Stu Sklar is calling for a special town meeting on election Day Nov 4th, 2014 and would like to include something about Devens on the warrant.

Joe presented an update to the RKG contract extension/revision. The proposed revised schedule from RKG would be:

- Sept. 8: Chapter 1 and all Working Papers
- Sept. 29: MPSC to return comments to RKG
- Oct. 10 RKG to deliver draft Chapter 2
- October 24: MPSC to deliver comments on Chapter 2
- Oct. 31: RKG to deliver draft Chapter 3
- Nov 14: RKG to deliver draft Master Plan
- Nov 21 – PB Public Review of Draft MP
- Dec 1 – Public Hearing Draft
- Dec 15 – Public Hearing/PB vote
- Dec 30 – Final copy delivered

The committee expressed concern over the tight timing for review of the draft Master Plan especially during the holiday period. However, the sense of the committee was that since RKG developed the timeline it might be wise to stick with it at least through their November 14th delivery of the draft Master Plan, but that the MPSC might need more time to complete their review, perhaps moving a final date to February 13th, 2015. Joe will review this new timeline with the Planning Board before finalizing a schedule with RKG.

The committee then reviewed the draft of the Housing Working Paper. Concern was expressed that the risk factor of potential growth was not adequately represented. References to Devens are not always consistent. Devens housing numbers are clearly known and could be better delineated. Much of the conversation centered on whether or not growth was actively managed through current regulation or if growth was simply limited by current economic and environmental conditions. Also, the initial proposal indicated that at the end of each working paper would be an analysis of how Devens could impact on that element (if Harvard resumes Devens then housing would be impacted this way, however, if Harvard doesn't take Devens back then the housing options would be....., etc.) Perhaps this kind of analysis is forthcoming in Chapter 2, but if not, then this should be added to the Housing section.

Transportation Working Paper review was deferred to the next meeting.

The next meetings were set for August 28th, September 9th, 16th, and 23rd. The working papers on Housing and Transportation will be discussed at the August 7th meeting.

Didi made a motion to adjourn, Victor seconded. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:36pm.