

Master Plan Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Joe Hutchinson at 7:05 PM

Members Present: Didi Chadran, Joe Hutchinson, Victor Normand, SusanMary Redinger, Lucy Wallace

Liaisons Present: Elaine Lazarus, Joe Theriault

Guest: Bill Scanlan, PB Planner; Ken Swanton

Administrative: The meeting minutes for August 28 and September 16, 2014 were approved as written.

Public Forums: Joe H. and Didi will develop outreach material for the two upcoming public forums.

Update on Judi: Joe H. had spoken with Judi regarding Judi's participating in the upcoming public forums, and her expected delivery dates of sections of the draft master plan. Judi has both forums on her calendar (November 15 – Devens; December 6 – draft master plan) and plans on participating. The next section of the master plan, Chapter 2, will be delivered by October 10th. Judi has received all of the working papers with our comments except for the final one, Open Space and Natural Resources, which is to be reviewed at this meeting.

After discussion about the format for the Devens forum it was agreed that the assumptions being presented to the public for their input should be as simple as possible, given the high degree of uncertainty around the more complex and variable issues concerning jurisdiction. Victor noted that the forum should focus on the basic premise that Devens does or does not return to Harvard and what the impacts or pros and cons of each outcome would be for the town.

There followed a longer discussion about the number of meetings Judi still owes the MPSC and Planning Board. She is committed to attending our meeting on November 3rd (before the Devens forum). According to the schedule with the contract, the MPSC was to have 5 meetings with Judi, of which she still owes us 2, and 1 meeting with the Planning Board (to attend the hearing on the master plan). Joe H. reported that the Planning Board wanted Judi to make a presentation of the master plan to it before the hearing (in addition to attending the hearing), and felt that would use one of the MPSC's remaining 2 consultant meetings. Lucy argued that it was important for the MPSC to keep both its meetings with Judi, especially as they would be before our two public forums. Joe H. and Lucy will speak to Judi and see if she can accommodate both the MPSC and Planning Board requests.

Open Space and Natural Resources Working Paper: The balance of the meeting was spent reviewing comments, suggested edits and questions to give Judi on the draft Open Space and Natural Resources working paper. Didi had previously combined everyone's comments into a single document which he was able to edit as we made our review. The general sense of the committee was that the paper was very poorly written, seemed to contain unnecessary information ("cut and paste"), errors, and overlooked important

aspects to address, such as trails, clarity of types and levels of protection, and inclusion of Devens resources. There was no discussion of issues and opportunities.

A discussion followed on the overall quality of all the working papers and general dissatisfaction with them. The expected section at the end of each paper on the issues or criteria to use in considering the Devens jurisdiction question was missing or incomplete. Joe H. and Lucy will raise the committee's concerns when they speak to Judi regarding the meetings issue.

Press Release: Didi presented his draft press release for the upcoming Devens forum for review and revision.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.