

Master Plan Update Committee 2023

Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2024, 6:30 PM

Third Floor Training Room

355 East Central Street

This meeting was available to be attended in person by all citizens. The meeting was also live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 9 and Verizon Channel 29.

Recordings have been made available on Franklin TV's "Franklin Town Hall TV" YouTube channel. Additionally, citizens were able to participate remotely via phone and Zoom.

Committee Members in Attendance: *Chair Glenn Jones; Vice Chair Cobi Frongillo; Clerk Melanie Hamblen; Kenneth Elmore; Joe Halligan; Ginelle Lang; Gino Carlucci; Rick Power; Meghann Hagen; Bruce Hunchard; Erin Gallagher;*

Committee Members Absent: *Eric Steltzer; Jennifer Williams;*

Others in Attendance: *Bryan Taberner, DPCD Director; Maxwell Morrongiello; Amy Love, Town Planner*

Chair Glenn Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Subcommittee Updates

Vice Chair Frongillo provided an update to say that the CSFC subcommittee had attended the GATRA public hearing and gathered input from it, followed by a tour of the Senior Center. He added that they will be inviting the Town Engineer, Mike Maglio, to their next meeting to talk about circulation, and Facilities Director Mike D'Angelo will be at the subcommittee meeting after that. Member Lang provided updates to the Land Use & Zoning subcommittee, saying they worked with the Department of Planning and Community Development in reviewing current circumstances, followed by comparative reviews of other towns in how they have developed their downtowns recently. Member Hagan provided a recap of OSRP & NCHR's open house at the Library on February 3, and added that they may repeat the event on February 24 or in March wherein they would also plan a walking tour of the SNETT. The Committee then coordinated making sure they everyone was okay with having the February 24 SNETT Trail event happen at the same time as Land Use & Zoning's Farmers Market event.

Maxwell Morrongiello then asked if there would be a possible opportunity to perform feedback gathering outside of the polls for the March 5 election, to which Chair Jones said he would make note of looking into it. Member Carlucci updated the Committee on Sustainability subcommittee's public outreach session scheduled for February 15 at 8:30 at the Senior Center, and again on March 2 from 9:30-12:00 at the Library. Member Elmore said that the Housing and Economic Development subcommittee is looking at outreach opportunities as well as reviewing goals from the 2013 Master Plan to determine if they are still relevant.

Meeting Minutes

Member Hunchard motioned to approve the January 10 and January 24 Master Plan Committee Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Clerk Hamblen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of approving both sets of minutes.

Planning for Public Outreach Meeting

Town Planner Love briefed the Committee to say that the Planning Department had met with the Consultants about what they want the subcommittees to be doing with public outreach. The subcommittees were asked to each put together a slide to be combined together for the public hearing presentation on February 14. Chair Jones asked that the agenda and information about the public hearing presentation also be circulated on social media and online mailing list for the public to more easily come across. Town Planner Love said they could add it to the Town Blog. Member Gallagher asked if it could be clarified what the Consultants are looking for in subcommittees' mission statements. Town Planner Love answered that it was more important to focus on what the subcommittee's element is. Member Lang asked what types of goals and questions each subcommittee should be asking to provide a structure to their public hearings. Vice Chair Frongillo weighed in with his response that having three key driving questions might be the best approach if each subcommittee can form appropriate key questions that would distinguish this Master Plan's objectives from those of the 2013 Master Plan. The Committee Members agreed that a three-question structure would be how each subcommittee's public hearings will work. Member Elmore asked if, in addition to the questions, it might be important to provide public hearing attendees with a sense of context/headwinds.

The Committee then discussed when an ideal timeframe to attract the public for the public event on Saturday, March 23 might be. Member Elmore said that Dean College might be able to find room to host the event, but it would depend on the time as Dean has other events happening on the same day. The Committee then agreed upon a timeframe of 11:00am to 3:00pm, while Member Elmore said he would work on finding an appropriate room to host the event.

Next Meetings (Main Committee)

Public Outreach 1: February 14, 2024 at 6:30PM in Town Council Chambers

Open House: March 23, 2024 from 11:00AM-2:00PM or 3:00PM at Dean College, room TBD

Next Meetings (subcommittees)

Open Space & Recreation, Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources: February 12, 2024 at 6:00PM

Community Service, Facilities & Circulation: February 7, 2024 at 5:15PM

Land Use and Zoning: February 24, 2024 at 7:00PM

Housing & Economic Development: February 15, 2024 at 5:00PM

Sustainability: TBD

Additional Comments

Adjourn Meeting

Member Hunchard motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Clerk Hamblen. There was a unanimous vote in favor of adjourning. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Tyler Paslaski
Administrative Assistant

--Master Plan Update Committee Approved Minutes at March 6, 2024 Meeting