Master Plan Committee

Jessica Porter, Co-Chair
Sarah MacDonald, Co-Chair
Alix O'Connell, Clerk,
Josh Donati
Shaw McDermott
Margaret Adams Whitfield
James Antonizick
Dan Hart
Andrew Tittler
Sharna Small Borsellino
Nathan Gauthier
Dieckmann Cogil
Daniel T. Maher
Justin H. Humphreys



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DEDHAM 2030 MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, December 11, 2019, Lower Conference Room at Town Hall

Present: Jessica Porter Planning Board Member

Josh Donati, School Committee Member Sarah MacDonald, Select Board Member

Shaw McDermott, Attorney

Margaret Adams Whitfield, Teacher James Antonizick, Civil Engineer

Dan Hart, ex. P&R Member, Open Space Committee Member

Scott Steeves, Zoning Board of Appeals Member

Andrew Tittler, Attorney

Sharna Small Borsellino, Human Service Transportation Director

Nathan Gauthier, Sustainability

Dieckmann Cogill, AICP, Transportation Planner

Daniel T. Maher, Dedham Youth Baseball

Justin H A. Humphreys, Architect Alix M. O'Connell, Municipal Attorney

Not Present: Jay O'Brien, Planning Board Member

Tye Donahue, Parks & Recreation Board Member

Administrative: Jeremy Rosenberger, Planning Director

Jennifer Doherty, Administrative Assistant John Sisson, Economic Development Director

Michelle Tinger, Planning Intern

Jessica Ported started the meeting by writing down the collective values and beliefs of the Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC). These include:

- Open-mindedmess;
- Respect (expertise, personal, group & time);

- Communication (to group and outside);
- Address conflict internally (don't expect a total consensus);
- Energy and creativity (take risks);
- Organization (goal-minded);
- Transparency;
- Inclusivity (within and without group); and
- Respect history, but do not fear change.

The Master Plan is approximately a 2 to 2.5 year process. It is a future vision and policy guide that provides guidance to the town. It is a plan for the town's evolution (physically and philosophically). State law requires that the Master Plan be updated every 10 years, and it contains a range of topics to address. Dedham's bylaws adds a 5 year study requirement and additional topics including a review of the rules and regulations of all Commissions and Boards.

A Master Plans helps allocate resources, forces disciplined and continual planning, and it contexualizes Board decisions and the town-wide effects of decisions. Consistency with zoning is key to a successful Master Plan. The concurrent commissions and plans include the Charter Review of the Town of Dedham, the School Master Plan, and the 2020 Census.

In 2009, the town released its latest Master Plan, which was done during the depression. Its predictions of slow population growth were incorrect, and the town's economy has significantly improved since the last Master Plan. Our population is getting older, with a 72% increase, and households are getting smaller, from over 3 people per houshole to 2 people her household. Josh Donati stated that the schools use a different company (NESDEC) to calculate demographic changes, which takes into account young families moving to town and therefore predicts less loss in younger populations within the Town.

Jessica Porter brought up the 2009 Master Plan Update & Implementation, conducted in 2017. Ms. Porter mentioned that 26% of the goals had no action – mostly around housing and transportation. She continued stating that the goals less likely to succeed are those without owners and those that do not take into account available organizational resources. Ms. Porter continued by reminded MPIC members that some goals may require additional structural changes to succeed. Despite having some goals that were not met, many improvements were made and some goals were met, such as those pertaining to the Eadt Dedham design, government, and policy improvements.

A new tool, Providence Highway: Create a Better Corridor, was brought to the committee members' attention. This tool includes the District Improvement & Financing Mechanisms (DIFM), which uses money made by new commercial projects to fund infrastructure and other improvements. It also includes access to Wigwam Pong and the Charles River. The goal of DIFM is to turn the Corridor from a highway into a parkway. This will make for a more welcoming entrance to Dedham. Dieckmann Cogil, AICP mentioned that another potential tool is the Complete Streets Initiative, and Shrarna Small Borsellino added that the Commuter Rail Initiative is another to add to the list.

Designing Dedham 2030's key scope of work and objectives to remember include the housing crisis (especially seniors and the low-income community), liveability, public health, and zoning connections. The Designing Dedham 2030 document does not have to be text-heavy and

and 300 pages. Instead, the committee should look to making it a graphic-based and magazine like.

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) has been chosen to be the consultant to helpguide Dedham's Master Plan. The MAPC is a quasi-governmental agency, funded by town taxes, and it provides grants for planning. They have provided \$150,000 for the Designing Dedham 2030 process. With matching funds, there is a toal of \$250,000 for the master plan process. Josh Flala is the lead consultant for this master plan.

According to the committee members, communication with them is best via email. All information will be posted through a Google Drive. All documents will be read-only to avoid Open Meeting Rule complications. Whenever anything is posted, it becomes public record. Jessica Porter, recommended by Jeremy Rosenberger, and Sarah MacDonald, recommended by Daniel T. Maher, were elected as Co-Chairs. Alix O'Connell volunteered to be the Clerk. There will be approximately 1 meeting per month, and the calendar will be posted on the Google Drive shared with the Committee. There is an apparent consenses that Wednesday nights are difficult for committee members, and there is a preference for Tuesdays or maybe Mondays.

The next Master Plan Implementation Committee meeting will be in January. Jeremy Rosenberger will send out a Doodle Poll. The next meeting will address civic participation, the internation organization of the committee, and the Master Plan Implementation Committee's decision making process.