

**Town of Sharon
Master Plan Steering Committee
Minutes of 6/18/19
Sharon Community Center**

MPSC Members

Pasqualino Pannone
Chuck Levine
Peg Arguimbau
Ted Philips
Laura Smead
Signe Flieger
Susan Olson Drisko

Town Appointees

Susan Price

Guests

Tom O'Rourke, President, Neponset River Regional Chamber
Rob Maidman
Eli Blumen
Sustainable Sharon Coalition: Bri McAlevey, Kathi Mirza, Ellen Bordman, Cheryl Schnitzer, Dr. Ricky Stern

Minutes

Review of meeting minutes. Arguimbau motioned to accept the minutes of April 9, 2019 with one change to add the word "Most" at the beginning of the sentence "MPSC members ..." Levine seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Arguimbau motioned to approve May 14, 2019 meeting minutes. Flieger seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions.

Discussion of May 30th public meeting

Discussion ensued.

Discussion of revised draft chapters.

Pannone said CivicMoxie should have the final draft done by the end of the month. The MPSC should review and comment on the revised drafts by the end of next week (June 28). The Planning Board will need to adopt the Master Plan and then the Select Board will direct the other departments and boards to implement it.

New Implementation Committee

A new Implementation Committee will need to be formed with a new chair (Smead, Flieger and Drisko are interested in joining so far.) Pannone said that a town planner will be needed to help implement the plan and said perhaps a consultant would be hired for the time being. Price offered to continue assisting the town for the interim. A possible date for the MPSC to meet with CivicMoxie, town boards and department heads would be Thursday, September 5th in the evening. He assumed the Planning Board would adopt the Master Plan after the meeting. The MPSC needs to find out how many people should serve on the Implementation Committee and check with Turkington to see

whether they are appointed by the Select Board or the Planning Board. Smead said to be sure that the Town Administrator and the Select Board are represented on the Implementation Committee.

Open Space Plan

Arguimbau said the Open Space and Recreation Plan will be distributed to the other town boards at the end of June and then submitted to the state by MAPC. Pannone said to forward to CivicMoxie, as well. Arguimbau noted that going through the Imagine Sharon process was helpful to the Open Space Plan.

Neponset River Regional Chamber

Thomas O'Rourke, President of the Neponset River Regional Chamber, spoke about the role of the Chamber in the region. He has a lot of experience with downtown groups and businesses (including those who work from home) and noted that a few Sharon businesses are members. O'Rourke also serves as the regional representative to the MPO. He congratulated the MPSC on the process and said the NRRC could help the Town of Sharon in implementation of the master plan with issues from economic vitality to aging in community.

Sustainable Sharon Coalition

Sustainable Sharon Coalition spoke about their members' appreciation for being included in the Master Plan process. Schnitzer said the plan nods to sustainability but they would like to see more specifics, including the recent Town Meeting warrant articles. They would like to see a good portion of their suggestions included in the Master Plan. Pannone noted that when the MPSC gets CivicMoxie's final draft, the Committee can share it and then get comments from the boards and the public. Schnitzer noted the highlights from the SSC memorandum they sent recently to Imagine Sharon. These include Leadership (get a Sustainability Coordinator to deal with issues of solid waste, water, and energy), Education (teach the residents how to conserve and reduce waste and encourage them through incentives), Alignment (provide services throughout town in schools, businesses and residences), and Assurances (promote composting option, work beyond the town on issues of global warming). Some of the MPSC noted that these issues are sprinkled throughout the Master Plan but they could look at the final draft while checking to make sure it is in the summary items and wherever appropriate. Arguimbau said she put some of the SSC 's comments in the Open Space chapter and in the Open Space and Recreation Plan. McAlevey said the plan should include the highest ideals and the town should hire a planner, grant writer, and sustainability planner, and that there should be benchmarking every 6 months for implementation. Pannone noted that any benchmarking depends on the timeframe of the goals. Mirza noted there these are "need to have" issues not "want to have" issues and said that there should be mention of solid wastes and toxics in the Plan and the SSC is ready to help with implementation.

Maidman asked which boards will have the most involvement and the MPSC discussed the question. He said the MPSC will need to build momentum and support for the plan and said outreach will be important.

Acknowledgements section

Pannone said the MPSC will need a new representative from some of the boards who have not been very involved.

Pannone said that when the MPSC review is done, the MPSC can post the final draft to the public, boards, and department heads to review and then the Planning Board can revise and adopt it. Smead suggested a report by the MPSC to Town Meeting.

Adjournment

Drisko motioned to adjourn and Arguimbau seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.