

Approved: March 24, 2022

Meeting Minutes
Sustainability Master Plan Advisory Committee
February 23, 2022

Present:

Members: Beth Esinhart, Brian Edwards, Eric Hryniewicz, Paul Simon, Joanna Whitcomb
Staff: Rob Houseman, Vicki Smith

Present via Zoom:

Public: Jackson Yant, John Pepper, Rohan Menezos, Jennie Chamberlain

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.

Public Involvement Plan Review

Vicki gave an overview of the Public Involvement Plan(PIP). There were questions about the “how to accommodate more density” workshop and whether the consultants would review the Zoning Ordinance as part of the Master Plan. There will not be a Zoning Ordinance review as this would be a step toward implementation.

The Advisory Committee will be given the opportunity to review questions that will be asked as part of the community forum. Facilitators will be volunteers from the Advisory Committee, staff from the Town and VHB, and members of the Planning Board and other Town committees. Eric will try to recruit students to serve as note takers.

Town staff have offered to hold an in person on campus event. They would like guidance from the Student Assembly as to location and dates. Having finger food available was suggested to attract students. All agreed that there would be great benefit from interaction between students and community members.

Joanna shared her experience with the *Strategic Framework* done for the College Campus Master Plan. She said the best moments were the poster sessions at Baker/Berry and interactions between alumni/ae and students.

Graduate students tend to congregate within their departments and don't use community spaces as much as the undergraduates do. Grad student lounges, Sachem Community Center and Sachem Field were identified as places to reach out to graduate students.

The Committee accepted the PIP as drafted with the understanding that it would be a living document modified to reflect events undertaken and as plans change.

Review results of Greatest Wish and Greatest Strength Survey

The Committee reviewed the Greatest Wish and Greatest Strength Survey responses to date. They found the list hard to digest and suggested presentation using a word cloud to summarize the information gathered. Committee members agreed that there is probably a seasonality to the responses such that in the summer there would be a number of responses mentioning places frequented more in the summer such as Storrs Pond, Wilson's Landing and Kendal Riverfront Park.

Outreach for The Community Forum

The Committee reviewed a list of email networks and worked on filling it in so that each network had a person responsible for conveying the community forum announcement to their on-line contacts.

Minutes from February 16, 2022

The minutes from February 16, 2022 were reviewed. On a motion by Brian and a second by Paul, the minutes were accepted as prepared on a unanimous vote.

Other Business

The Committee agreed to try to save some time for non-member attendees to give input to the Committee. When the consultant is present most meeting agendas are already very long.

Beth asked the attendees for input. Jennie Chamberlain hoped that outreach from the Community Forum would go to the schools. Contact with the school community will be via the superintendent as he has requested.

Next meeting

March 7 at 4 PM in the Board Room at the Town Offices.

Training meeting could be held on March 17 at 4 PM if consultants are available.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Smith