

HANOVER

SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN

Meeting Notes

Date/Time: 12/12/2023; 5:00PM

Approved:

Place: Town Offices, Zoom

Notes Taken By: Vicki Smith

Re: Hanover Sustainability Master Plan –
Advisory Committee Meeting

Attendance

Master Plan Advisory Committee

Elizabeth Esinhart – Chair

Jarett Berke

Paul Simon

Chris Kennedy

Brian Edwards

Members of the Public

Jennie Chamberlain (via Zoom)

Nicholas Macri (via Zoom)

Nancy Carter

Town Staff

Robert Houseman, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Codes

Vicki Smith, Senior Planner

Meeting called to order at 5:10 pm.

Discuss Comments Received on the Draft Master Plan

The list of comments received via the two on-line surveys were reviewed. While there is not universal support for all plan elements, there is generally support for the vision, goals and strategies. A few comments were concerned with preserving downtown neighbors as they are; more comments were in favor of adding more workforce housing and allowing for higher density development in the greater downtown. Modifications to the plan included:

1. Modifying a bulleted concept on page 2-2 so it reads:

Limiting extensions of municipal water/sewer services ~~beyond current~~ to areas *currently* served by water or sewer, ensuring responsible resource use.

2. On page 7-9, modify the second paragraph by adding a phrase:

Additional public gathering spaces, *including a Town- maintained event space*, that are visible to the public should be explored, such as along Allen Street, in front of Town Hall, and in the area between Ledyard and Citizen banks on South Main Street.

3. On page 7-15, remove the stray greenhouse gas emissions icon.

On the page following the Table of Contents, beneath the view from Moose Mountain, re-state the vision: Founded in 1761, Hanover is a community that boasts the activity of a downtown center, the charm of a small New England college town, and a commitment to preserving our natural heritage by leveraging the passion and resources of our residents, including students, businesses, and civic leaders. Our vision for the future is centered around the value statements on page 1-5.

The Committee also suggested: adding an acknowledgement page, listing members of the Advisory Committee, Planning Board and Town staff that contributed to the drafting of the Plan; binding on the left hand side; removing blue divider pages at the end of each chapter; binding the appendices in the same volume as the text; and replacing the downtown cover picture but keep the same overall cover design.

The website will be modified to address Jennie Chamberlains questions and links to Walk Bike Plan, Housing Opportunity Study, Sustainable Hanover and Open Space Plan will be added.

Public Comment

Comments from the public were welcomed during the discussion. There were no additional public comments.

Minutes, Next Meeting and Other Business

The minutes of November 28, 2023 were reviewed. On a motion by Chris to approve the minutes, there was a second offered by Brian. The motion was unanimously approved.

No meetings are planned in the near future, though the Committee might meet again at the request of the Planning Board chair.

Adjourn

At 6:23 PM, Chris offered a motion to adjourn. Brian seconded the motion. There was unanimous support for the motion to adjourn.