

Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee Meeting
October 6, 2022

Members attending: Victor Normand, SusanMary Redinger, Paul Green (left meeting at 10:15am), Heather Knowles, Tim Myllykangas, John McCormack (replacing Richard Cabelus as the Planning Board representative), Don Ludwig (joined 10:08am), Kara Minar (joined 10:09am), George Glazer (joined 10:11am)

Members absent: George Glazer

Victor Normand called the meeting to order at 10:02

Plan Public Meeting on Harvard's Summary Plan

Victor suggested changing the format of the presentation by simplifying the number of presenters and the length of the talking points.

Victor will moderate and the following members will also speak:

Paul Green, Heather or George (representing Devens), Don (covering finances)

Paul updated members on the logistics of the technology aspects including the monitor, QR code.

Publicity Update:

Jane – sent a notification to the Press; updating the town website, sending an update through the town's distribution list; passed out 40-50 announcements at the STM; sent note to Karen Davis asking her to publish a notification in the weekly Devens newsletter; spoke with John Katter who will share it out with approx. 100 Devens members.

Victor submitted a "Consider This" piece to the Press.

Jane will place copies of notices in various places around Harvard (Library, General Store) and Devens Fall Festival and will follow up with heads of Harvard boards/committees. Jane asked HDJC members to send out notifications to their contacts.

Members suggested some other places in Devens to post notices.

John suggested making directions to the HES gym available to those not familiar with the school, and how to send questions in ahead of time. Jane will work with Julie Doucet to set up an email box/address for HDJC. Signs/balloons and people can help direct attendees the night of the event.

Minutes:

The minutes of July were approved by majority vote.

The minutes of September 1 were approved unanimously as amended.

Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee (DJFC) meeting update:

Victor gave an update from the last meeting. Amanda Dew was not able to attend but will act as a liaison if Healy is elected.

Dan Rivera met with SB's of Ayer and Harvard and committed to attending next DFJC pending his availability. Victor suggested at least one member of Mass Dev't to attend even if Dan can't.

Victor will re-send the invitation to the Oct. 17th presentation to members and candidates.

Devens Budget

Work continues by Victor and Don. No substantial changes since last meeting.

Other Business

Heather has spoken with John Katter who's gone door to door in Devens and is compiling and outreach list. He plans to provide feedback to the DJFC. George asked if anyone has looked into the Commercial Fusion Energy facility being built on Devens (In conjunction with MIT) that does fusion reactions/fusion power generation. They are in the process of hiring many engineers, scientists. It's worth doing a tour as they will be a dominant presence at Devens.

Members discussed the open question of allowing Mass Dev't a continued role in the redevelopment of Devens and leaving behind the local governance responsibility. What will be their participation in "supporting" the determination of governance beyond disposition?

Public Comment:

Jim Dezutter – added comments about the separation of "development" vs. "governance" options for Mass Dev't. He gave a historical perspective of resuming jurisdiction as a resident of "historical Harvard" for 51 years.

Jane suggested all members prepare a short response to "Why do we need to address Devens now?" It would be useful to talk to residents to engage them to come and participate.

Members talked through possible responses and it was recommended to review the last section of the 2016 Master Plan that pertains to Devens (which can be found here:

https://www.harvard-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf676/f/uploads/mp_final_8-16-2016_large_format_maps.pdf)

Victor Normand adjourned the meeting without objection at 11:02am.

Respectfully submitted,

SusanMary Redinger, recording secretary