



The Select Board Regular Meeting was held remotely in accordance Bill S.2475, An Act relative to extending certain Covid-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency.

Select Board member present:

Alice von Loesecke, Kara Minar, Stu Sklar, Rich Maiore, Erin McBee

Town Department attendees:

Town Administrator Tim Bragan, Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director Marie Sobalvarro, Executive Assistant Julie Doucet

Additional Participants:

HDJC Chair Victor Normand

Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee update

Committee member Victor Normand reported on activities of the committee over the past six months. They have developed items for Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee to consider as part of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the parties. In addition, the committee has met with Senator Eldridge/Rep. Sena and has discussed the future redevelopment of Vicksburg Square.

Normand reported the framework committee met on June 9th with all parties represented. The Executive VP for Devens, Jessica Strunkin announced that an internal group had met and she was charged with informing the Devens Jurisdiction Committee that MassDevelopment had no budget for funding consultants and no plans to provide funding. The board members were surprised to hear this and agreed MassDevelopment's CEO Dan Rivera should be asked to respond.

Status update on the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding

Town Administrator Tim Bragan reported \$300,000 has been submitted for CARES funding. We have learned about \$130,000 of those costs are now allowed through the CARES act and will be resubmitted to FEMA. Finance Director Jared Mullane and Fire Chief Rick Sicard are working through these issues.

Bragan reported guidance has been released on compliance related to ARPA funding. He along with Assistant Town Administrator Marie Sobalvarro are reviewing the guidance now.

Public Communication

Bruce Leicher, Chair of the Bare Hill Pond Watershed Committee, offered input on the proposed pump track location discussed at a recent Park & Recreation Commission meeting. (Attachment A)

Ellen Leicher, Community Resiliency Committee member, agreed with Bruce Leicher that the pump track concept is good however the proposed location is not. She asked the board to be mindful of the environmental impact and to facilitate collaboration so we can decide where to go as a community.

Bob O'Shea, Park & Recreation Commission Chair, commended the Leicher's for their work on noble causes noting he too did a lot of work on the Pond Road well project. He is well aware of the needs and has no intention of hurting the pond or the past efforts made to protect it. The pump track proposal was made by residents. O'Shea pointed out the town has identified specific land for recreation, many of which are near the pond however additional recreation uses have not been realized. In many cases issues with wetlands and neighbor concerns have prohibited anything further from being accomplished. O'Shea is willing to collaborate on ways to create additional recreation in town. He is open to investigating a land swap that may help to facilitate some of these ideas.

Minutes

By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Mairoe – aye, Sklar – aye, McBee – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 6/1, as presented.

Annual Appointments

By a roll call vote, Maiore – aye, Sklar – aye, Minar – aye, McBee – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to make the following appointments:

Committee/Board	Name	Term
Bare Hill Pond	Ben Barron	3 year
CPC	Arielle Jennings	3 year
Cultural Council	Ellen Harasimowicz	3 year
	Timothy Schmoyer	
	Marijke Vallaey	
	Shannon Kinayman	
Elm Commission	Chuck Christensen	3 year
MAHT	Arielle Jennings	2 year
Park & Recreation	Marisa Steele	3 year
Planning Board	Richard Cabelus	3 year
	Jefferson Burson, associate	1 year

By a roll call vote, Maiore – aye, McBee – aye, Minar – aye, Sklar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to accept recommendation to renew Conservation Commission existing member appointments.

By a roll call vote, Maiore – aye, McBee – aye, Minar – aye, Sklar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Joanne Ward and Paul Willard to full three year terms and Eve Wittenberg to the one year associate position.

By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Sklar – aye, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, von Loesecke, the board voted unanimously to reappoint all volunteers seeking reappointment in list of expiring terms except those who indicated no in the reappointment column (Attachment A).

Staff report and updates

- APR on Prospect Hill: A vote correction is necessary. The Select Board voted to approve the APR, but was only being asked at that time to grant their consent to a reduction of the notice period.

By a roll call vote, Sklar – aye, Maiore – aye, Minar – aye, McBee – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to consent to a reduction of the 120 day notice period prescribed for the announcement at a public meeting on the Commonwealth's proposed acquisition of an Agricultural Preservation Restriction referenced above to not less than 60 days.

- Regional Climate Change Network: Attached is an invitation from the Pepperell Select Board to join them as part of a regional climate change network. This is part of the effort to meet the Commonwealth's goal of achieving a zero-carbon footprint by 2050. (Other components of the 'Act creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts climate policy' include the transition of state fleets to zero-emission vehicles, as well as the option of a voluntary adoption of a more energy efficient building code).
- July 4th Invitation enclosed from the Fourth of July Committee to participate in the parade. Please let Julie know if members of the Select Board will be marching as a board that day.
- Girl Scout Troop 30741 will hold a car wash fundraiser in the Town Hall parking lot on Saturday, June 26th from 11am to 4pm.
- The Take It or Leave It (TIOLI) will be reopening tomorrow; the handout of alternate donation centers will also be distributed to patrons as TIOLI alternatives (or TIOLI overstock). The Girl Scouts will be restocking/reorganizing the book shed, and the Boy Scouts will be back in their shed as of this weekend. Transfer Station sticker sales via mail remain brisk, and we're continuing to remind residents that the hours are reverting to the 'old' hours (Wed: 7:30-11:30, Sat: 8:00-2:00). The Wifi for the dump dollars is in place, and additional equipment for the attendants has been ordered.
- The RFP for the sale or the lease of property for a senior center and COA will be posted in the Central Register on 6/23 with proposals tentatively due by July.26, 2021 (date and time to be finalized by the Permanent Building Committee at their meeting tomorrow).
- The House approved a bill reversing the order of re-precincting (enabling the Legislature to redraw districts before cities and towns craft precincts); this does not directly affect Harvard but would affect neighboring towns with representative Town Meetings and split representation in the House.
- MNHG will be distributing an RFP shortly seeking potential health insurers. Ideally, respondents would be at a similar price point to Fallon (Tufts and Harvard plans are 16% and 24% more expensive, respectively) and offer similar coverage. In other health insurance news, members of the IAC attended a virtual webinar on the MITA plans, and the data-gathering of claims and enrollment information will be commencing in July to generate pricing proposals for the IAC to evaluate this mid-fall.
- Our web domain for the Town of Harvard will be moving from harvard.ma.us to harvard-ma.gov, a more secure site. Our thanks to Alice, who as the highest elected official was instrumental in getting our approval from the Federal General Services Agency.
- National Grid is planning to move wires from the double-poles at the Town Hall driveway on Wednesday morning (this would be the 3rd rescheduled visit); there will be no electricity at Town Hall from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Staff will be present, but the offices will be closed to the public until 9:45 a.m.
- The Commonwealth's MA Emergency Paid Sick Leave, applicable to all Massachusetts employers, was posted. This law covers up to 40 hours of paid time off due to COVID-related reasons, (including immunization) from May 28 through September 30 (or until the program funds are exhausted).

Board reorganization

Rich Maiore nominated Stu Sklar for Chair.

By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, Sklar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, McBee – aye, the board voted unanimously to appoint Stu Sklar as Chair.

Su Sklar nominated Rich Maiore for Vice Chair.

By a roll call vote, Sklar – aye, McBee – aye, Minar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, Maiore - aye, the board voted unanimously to appoint Rich Maiore as Vice Chair.

Alice von Loesecke nominated Erin McBee as clerk.

By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, Sklar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, McBee – aye, the board voted unanimously to appoint Erin McBee as Clerk.

Select Board liaisons

Sklar asked for input from his fellow members for finalization of the assignments at the July 13th meeting.

Select Board reports

Sklar reported the War Monument Restoration Committee met in person to discuss the World War II monument which is basically complete. The garden club is working on plantings. Names will be added on an annual basis and a rededication ceremony for November 7th. m

Kara Minar asked for an update on the Select PPA for the HES solar. Bragan reported there are two outstanding items. He expects this to be resolved soon.

Minar reported the Park & Recreation Commission may propose a land swap due to the interest in establishment of a pump track and other recreational opportunities. The beach has been very busy and currently they have a staffing problem. Bob O'Shea reported some staff was no available due to family vacations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm.

Documents referenced:

HDJC Report – dated 6/22/2021

Reappointment lists – FY22 & Summary of new appointments – Fiscal 22