

Town of Chelmsford
Master Plan Update Committee
50 Billerica Rd., Room 205 Chelmsford, Ma 01824
Regular Meeting
MINUTES
September 12, 2019
Approved September 26, 2019

Attending: George Zaharoolis, Donald Van Dyne, Bill Murphy, Scott Rummel, Kenneth Lefebvre, Nancy Araway (7:20PM)

Not Present: Joseph Ready

Others Present: Evan Belansky, Community Development Director, Town Manager Paul Cohen (left 7:25PM)

Please note that all documents referenced in these minutes are on file at the Town Manager's Office, 50 Billerica Rd., Chelmsford, Mass. This meeting was hand recorded by the Recording Secretary.

This meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by Chairman Zaharoolis.

7:00- 7:15 Open Session

No one came forward at this time.

Vision statement - discussion

There were no updates at this time.

Draft review – Open Space, Recreation, Historic and Cultural

A draft document was provided to Committee members. It is still in the process of being reviewed. Additional input from the Town Manager and Parks and Recreation Director will be added into the document which includes capital improvements planned for the next ten years on multiple athletic fields, parks and playgrounds. Most of the work is rehabilitation and restoration, as many of the facilities are very old. Some of the work is to add athletic field amenities at the High School.

Mr. Belansky summarized changes made to the document to date, as well as changes that still need to be done.

A revised document will be presented at a meeting next month.

Mr. Zaharoolis explained that Fred Rousseau from AARP may come to a future meeting to provide information and recommendations on Age Friendly Initiatives that could be included in the Master Plan Updates. Committee members were also invited to attend one of the Council of Aging Meetings where

these initiatives are being discussed. Mr. Belansky feels much of their work will be worthwhile to include in the Master Plan Update document.

The 2017 Open Space & Recreation Plan will be heavily referenced throughout this section.

Natural Resources and Historic & Cultural Resources will have their own sections.

For additional input, a memo requesting input will be sent to the appropriate parties, and they can be invited to a future meeting to discuss what their vision for the next ten years will be. Committee members were asked to e-mail specific questions to Mr. Belansky.

The Conservation Commission, BPAC and the Historic Commission will be invited to attend the meeting on October 10, 2019.

Recommendations on the 2010 Master Plan for the Open Space Section have not been actively overseen by the Conservation Commission. Input from the Commission and the Town Manager's Office or the Board of Selectmen may be needed. Recreation has traditionally been managed by the Continuing Education Department. There is consensus that there needs to be more transparent management of recreation amenities, particularly the scheduling of athletic fields.

Henry Parlee suggested including more detailed maintenance functions of Open Space Parcels be included in the Open Space Recommendations. This would be in addition to what the Chelmsford Open Space Stewardship currently provides. There are continuing challenges in meeting ADA compliance requirements.

The Agricultural Commission will be asked to provide input on agricultural developments such as micro-farming, and similar concepts.

Survey example

At the next meeting, NMCOC will present a revised survey document.

Public input sessions - discussion

These sessions will be scheduled after the document has been fully reviewed, and stakeholders have been heard. Tentative schedule could be in February or March of 2020.

Agenda items for next meeting

-Economic Development and Land Use Revisions. Committee members will be sent this document electronically. Comments should be sent to Mr. Belansky.

-Revised Input Survey

Approval of Minutes

August 29, 2019

Motion: by Mr. Lefebvre to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Van Dyne. **Motion carries, unanimous.**

Adjourn

Motion: by Mr. Lefebvre to adjourn the meeting at 8:10M. Seconded by Ms. Araway. **Motion carries, unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Vivian W. Merrill,
Recording Secretary

Supporting Documents:

- 2010 Chelmsford Master Plan Open Space and Recreation Section
- Draft revised Open Space & Recreation section and Natural Resources section document
- Memos from Steven Callaghan and Paul Cohen regarding Future Recreation Projects
- Draft Minutes