



53 RIVER STREET MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2021

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: David Martin, Stephanie Krantz, Peter Hocknell, Lou York, Bill Klauer, Don Boyle, Ilana Liebert, Matthew 'Selby' (Staff).

Absent: Bill Alesbury.

1. Opening

David Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM via a virtual meeting with no committee members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform.

2. Regular Business

A. A quorum is present.

B. Citizens' Concerns – none.

C. Approval of the minutes from the 01 December 2020 committee meeting: Motion to accept made by Lou York and seconded by Don Boyle. Voting took place via role call:

Peter Hocknell – Aye

David Martin – Aye

Stephanie Krantz – Aye

Ilana Liebert – Aye

Lou York – Aye

Bill Klauer – Aye

Don Boyle – Aye

D. Update on the archeological investigation: Gray and Pape staff were onsite on 15 December 2020 at the 53 River Street property. Doug Herrick (from the Acton Historical Commission) met them there. Ground penetrating radar analysis was performed; the geophysical reports are currently in draft form. A minor modification to their Massachusetts Historical Commission permit was necessary and has been resolved. If conditions allow, they anticipate completing the fieldwork around the end of January, with reports to follow.



- E. Update from the 21 December 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting: Here the board formally voted to remove the 53 River Street dam in accordance with the Office of Dam Safety's order.
- F. CPC presentation: Selby has submitted a CPC request for \$100,000 in order to fund the final design engineering and permitting for dam removal. Selby indicated we currently have sufficient funding to provide for the future park design. This committee will present to the CPC on 23 February 2021 at 7:40 pm. The presentation will be 20 minutes in length; approximately 10 minutes for the presentation itself and then 10 minutes for questions and answers. It was mentioned that there are \$2.7M in requests to the CPC and only \$1.7M in allocated funds. Given the intent of the project is dam removal in a historic district, it was suggested the committee focus on the recreation aspects of the property rather than the historic. It was also suggested we be proactive with alternative funding sources. To date, we have met this with the awarding of the MVP grant and Selby is hopeful we may obtain a Dam and Seawall Grant. The committee should have the archeology study reports by this point as well. Doug Herrick from the AHC indicated willingness to provide the committee a letter of support given the park intends to try and preserve historic artifacts from the original mill. Lou York has agreed to present to the CPC. The final presentation will be reviewed at the 02 February 2021 meeting.
- G. The committee's Annual Report to the Board of Selectmen is due by the end of January. Selby has offered to prepare this.
- H. This committee's next meeting will take place virtually on 02 February 2021 at 7 pm.
- I. Motion to adjourn was made at 7:49 by Lou York and seconded by Bill Klauer. Voting took place via role call:
Peter Hocknell – Aye
David Martin – Aye
Stephanie Krantz – Aye
Ilana Liebert – Aye
Lou York – Aye
Bill Klauer – Aye
Don Boyle – Aye

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:

- Meeting Agenda for January 5, 2021
- Draft minutes from the December 1, 2020 committee meeting