



53 RIVER STREET MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 20, 2023

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: David Martin, Peter Hocknell, Bill Alesbury, Stephanie Krantz, Bill Klauer, Ilana Liebert, Andy Magee (project consultant), Mike Gendron (Town Conservation Agent).

Absent: Lou York.

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. Notes from the chair – none.
- C. Resident concerns – none.
- D. Status of project from Mike Gendron:

- The project was sent out to bid. 5 bids returned; all exceeding the original cost estimate by at least \$380,000.
- Mike Gendron reached out to William Hinkley at the Office of Dam Safety who agreed to add funds to cover this gap to the Dam & Seawall Grant.
- The project was awarded to the lowest bidder. This is the S&R Company based in Lowell, MA. A review of the bidder was conducted by the town's project management consultants to ensure they are a legitimate company, references were checked, etc. All were found to be acceptable. The process is in its final stages; a contract should be signed soon.
- The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permit remains outstanding. It was noted that work above-ground can commence prior to the permit being issued.
- The bid was set up as a “base bid” of ~\$2.5M with 2 add-on elements for the park approximating \$400K in extra cost.



- The Acton Historic District Commission (HDC) permit allows for demolition of site buildings and the dam, as well as the construction for any new structures. A previous permit was set to expire in June, so this past May David asked the HDC to extend and they did so (for another year). Mike Gendron is working on a presentation for the HDC for the proposed park elements, with the goal of eventually obtaining a Certificate of Appropriateness (for the park work, not the dam removal work). Aiming for end of June meeting to present the pre-application info to the HDC.

E. Proposals for Park Naming, revisited: This committee will make a recommendation to the Select Board. Proposed names include the following:

- South Acton Textile Mill Park
- River Street Textile Mill Park
- Textile Mill Dam Park
- Textile Mill Park
- Fort Pond Textile Mill Park
- River Street Textile Mill Park
- Fort Pond Brook Park
- Mill Dam Park
- Add in smaller font as a title suffix; "...of South Acton" or "...on Fort Pond Brook"
- Textile Mill Park on Fort Pond Brook *

* = is the current lead choice

Discussion regarding the park naming will continue at the next committee meeting. It was suggested that a map can be added indicating where the historic dams were located as a possible park element (Bill Klauer knows of 5 such dams).

F. Approval of the minutes from the 15 MAY 2023 committee meeting with one minor edit (Andy Magee is “project consultant”): Motion to accept made by Bill Klauer and seconded by Bill Alesbury. Voting took place via role call:

Peter Hocknell – Aye
David Martin – Aye
Ilana Liebert – Aye
Bill Alesbury – Aye
Stephanie Krantz – Aye
Bill Klauer – Aye

G. This committee’s next meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place virtually on 15 AUG 2023.

H. Motion to adjourn was made at 7:50 by Bill Klauer and seconded by Peter Hocknell. Voting took place via role call:



Peter Hocknell – Aye
Bill Alesbury – Aye
David Martin – Aye
Ilana Liebert – Aye
Stephanie Krantz – Aye
Bill Klauer – Aye

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:

- Meeting Agenda for 20 JUNE 2023
- Draft minutes from the 15 MAY 2023 committee meeting