



53 RIVER STREET MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: David Martin, Peter Hocknell, Ilana Liebert, Stephanie Krantz, Bill Alesbury, Lou York, Mike Gendron (Town Conservation Agent).

Absent: Bill Klauer.

1. Opening

David Martin called the meeting to order at 7:01 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:
 - Good progress being made, however there are 2 setbacks:
 - During excavation, remnants of potential asbestos and buried asphalt and construction debris were discovered. Both sites were tested; the site with suspected asbestos indeed tested positive (a “non-traditional” or “NT” abatement plan will be developed). Initially, it was hoped that the soil moved during construction would be repurposed for grading and similar purposes. If contaminated, it will need to be removed from the site and replaced with clean fill, which represents potential added cost.
 - The high level of water is posing a challenge to construction. The diverted channel to the tailrace has allowed for start of work in the main channel. Then, a recent series of storms led to flooding that overtopped the coffer dam allowing water to rejoin the main channel. Water levels now are back at reasonable levels to permit dewatering and focus on the streambed structural work. Hoping to still be able to keep on track with project schedule, even with these setbacks.



- Recent HDC meeting to discuss status of park elements: last night Mike Gendron went back to HDC. Topics for discussion include parking lot, benches, hydrant and no issues were reported. The landscaping plan screening was ok. However, 1 HDC member had to leave the meeting due to illness, resulting in loss of quorum, and the committee was not therefore able to vote. Mike will need to return for an official vote at a future meeting.
- Scour support for MBTA bridge: still working on the implementation plan; where best to access the site from. Timing uncertain, due in part to current high water level. If work is delayed, hope to carry over contingency budget funding.
- Lou asked whether Gray+Pape's findings report can be shared? David indicated that G+P's current effort is advisory; David will bring findings to the committee. Regarding the original report, David will ask Town Manager why the report is considered proprietary when the townspeople of Acton paid for the work to be done.

E. Park naming: A motion was made to authorize the committee chair to write a letter to the Select Board proposing the following name for the park (after affirming the name with Bill Klauer) "Textile Mill Park - Historic South Acton". Motion was made by Lou York and seconded by Peter Hocknell. Voting took place via role call:

Peter Hocknell - Aye
David Martin - Aye
Ilana Liebert - Aye
Bill Alesbury - Aye
Stephanie Krantz - Aye
Lou York - Aye

F. Approval of the minutes from the 15 AUGUST 2023 committee meeting: Motion to accept made by Bill Alesbury and seconded by Ilana Liebert. Voting took place via role call:

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

G. This committee's next meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place virtually on 17 OCT 2023.

H. Motion to adjourn was made at 7:59 by Peter Hocknell and seconded by Bill Alesbury. Voting took place via role call:

Peter Hocknell – Aye
Bill Alesbury – Aye
David Martin – Aye
Ilana Liebert – Aye



Stephanie Krantz – Aye
Lou York – Aye

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:

- Meeting Agenda for 27 SEPTEMBER 2023
- Draft minutes from the 15 AUGUST 2023 committee meeting
- “Week look ahead project status” file (docushare)