

MINUTES

Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 @ 3:00 PM
Video Conference via Zoom

Members Present: Robert Pontbriand and Alan Manoian (Ayer); Jim DeZutter, Bill Marshall and Peter Lowitt (Devens Enterprise Commission); Tim Bragan, Lucy Wallace, and Victor Normand (Harvard); Mike McGovern, Enrico Cappuci, and Bryan Sawyer (Shirley); Robert Ruzzo, Jessica Strunkin and Edmund Starzec (MassDevelopment).

Others Present: Karen Davis (MassDevelopment), Chris Ryan (Harvard), Cassandra McKenzie (MassDevelopment), Paul Green (Harvard)

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Victor Normand, co-chair.

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the February 12, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Section-by-Section Review of MOA

Victor Normand began the discussion of the MOA which was previously distributed to committee members. There was discussion regarding which sections may require more time and attention, specifically Definition of Consensus Approval (Section D, L & part of M), Initial Definition of Goals and Issues (Section E), and Funding for consultant Work (Section K).

J. Strunkin stated that each stakeholder should identify their own specific goals (Section E).

V. Normand reminded that the focus of the should be on jurisdiction, not changes or a critique of the reuse plan. E. Starzec remarked that while jurisdiction is important, there should be an opportunity for each stakeholder to share their policy goals. For example, housing development is a major focus of state policy that MassDevelopment would want to see continued. L. Wallace stated that there should be a template for each stakeholder and a focus on how do we best provide a local governing body.

Peter Lowitt offered a point of clarification, noting that the effort to rezone Vicksburg Square should proceed on its own path separate from the DJFC discussion.

The MOA was reviewed section by section by the committee to identify any topics needing further discussion. E. Starzec asked if the role of the Devens residents and businesses have been resolved. There is a placeholder in the MOA on page 5. It was stated that Devens residents and businesses are represented in Section L.

V. Normand asked that those who want to be on one of the smaller working groups to let Karen Davis know within a week. L. Wallace suggested that Aug. 21 would be a more suitable deadline. Bryan Sawyer stated that the working groups should be formed in a timely manner. The overall group would finalize and approve working group recommendations. V. Normand indicated the need to move forward and asked which way the committee would like to go. It was decided that three working groups would be formed to focus on Consensus, Goals & Issues, and Funding. The funding group would be made up of the town administrators, J. Strunkin representing MassDevelopment and Peter Lowitt as DEC's representative.

Robert Pontbriand suggested that the funding group start by having an informal meeting between now and the next committee meeting.

A brief email will be sent to all members of the committee asking other to volunteer for the other two working groups.

Ayer IT/Website Update

R. Pontbriand stated that the website is ready to launch. He will send a link to the website to the committee members and suggested it be reviewed in advance of the next meeting so that approval could be possible in September.

Map Update

Ed Starzec sent a link around with sample maps and asked for feedback or input. L. Wallace asked that the link be resent to her.

Discussion on Consensus

The discussion of consensus was preempted

Update on the formation of a Shirley Jurisdiction Committee

It was reported that, due to COVID-19 limitations there is not much to update.

6th Stakeholder Outreach Plan Update

Jessica Strunkin reported that one resident withdrew and the Devens Grill closed consequently removing them from the list of candidates. Bristol Myers Squibb has expressed a verbal interest and Little Leaf Farms has sent in a statement of interest. It was agreed that Devens representation would be made up of two businesses and one resident.

New Business

Chris Ryan volunteered to help work on consensus.

Items for the September 9th Meeting Agenda

- Update/Approval Ayer IT Website
- MOA Working Groups
- 6th Stakeholder
- Outline Financials Update

Public Comment

none

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:20.