



## 53 RIVER STREET MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

MAY 15, 2023

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

**Present:** David Martin, Peter Hocknell, Bill Alesbury, Stephanie Krantz, Bill Klauer, Ilana Liebert, Lou York, Andy Magee (project consultant).

**Absent:** Don Boyle.

### 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 Andy Magee:

- The Chapter 91 license has been received and recorded.
- The only remaining is the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permit. This is still in flux. The ACOE permit is issued under the Clean Water Act for working in wetlands and waterways. Since this particular project is historic in nature, the ACOE cannot issue a permit until the state Preservation Officer from the Massachusetts Historic Commission (MHC) has a memorandum of understanding (MOA) in place. The Permit paperwork was submitted to the MHC first, after which they revealed that they would not review until the ACOE had. Andy provided the Acton Historic Commission (AHC) with the draft MoA, which the AHC endorsed, and was sent on to the MHC and ACOE. This led to the MHC responding with the need for a full rewrite of the MOA. AHC reviewed the proposed edits and agreed that the content was acceptable and then signed the MOA, along with the Town Manager, and the MOA was then sent to the ACOE. Now the ACOE has responded that they want to



review and edit the MOA. It was noted that a template from another dam removal project was used as a guide for our MOA.

- The Acton Historic District Commission (HDC) permit will expire in June. David will meet with the HDC on 16 MAY 2023 to ask for the permit to be extended.
- A construction management team has been hired and taken over the project. Cost estimates from both the Engineer and Landscape Architect came in higher than anticipated. Additional funding above the \$1.7M in hand will likely be needed. Bid documents have been assembled and advertised. Two alternate options have been made for later-stage aspects of the park completion such that they can be phased in over time, similar to the Arboretum approach. Land movement, large scale aspects will be done upfront. Lou asked David to determine the cost for park designs incurred to date and to provide to the committee at the next meeting.
- The suggestion was made to invite a member of the construction team to the next committee meeting.

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

- Fort Pond Brook Park
- Fort Pond Park
- River Street Historic Park \*
- South Acton Mill Dam Park \*
- South Acton Textile Park
- South Acton Woolen Company Park
- Woolen Mill Park
- Shoddy Mill Park \*\*

\* = was popular during our meeting

\*\* = was not popular during our meeting

Discussion regarding the park naming will continue at the next committee meeting.

F. Approval of the minutes from the 31 JAN 2023 committee meeting: Motion to accept made by Bill Alesbury and seconded by Lou York. Voting took place via role call:

Peter Hocknell – Aye

David Martin – Aye

Ilana Liebert – Aye

Bill Alesbury – Aye

Stephanie Krantz – Aye

Lou York – Aye

Bill Klauer – Aye

G. This committee's next meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place virtually on 20 JUN 2023.



H. Motion to adjourn was made at 8:00 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

Lou York – Aye

Bill Klauer – Aye

**Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:**

- Meeting Agenda for 15 MAY 2023
- Draft minutes from the 31 JAN 2023 committee meeting