

Present:

Hannah Rechtschaffen, Chair

George Touloumtzis, Co Chair, Planning board representative

Mary Chicoine, public member

Nancy Hazard, public member

Jonah Keane, public member

Marlo Warner, Director of Public Works

Phil Elmer, City Council representative

Carole Collins, Energy Director

Anna Oltman, Community Development Administrator

Erik Twarag, Planning Director

Absent:

Kim Boas, public member

Greta Shwachman, Greenfield Public Schools Food Service Director

George opened the meeting at 4:01

Introductions:

George mentioned the opening of the skate park

Erik: Assuming the role of planning director representative from MJ Adams

Hannah: Excited about Green River festival.

Nancy Hazard also cheers the opening of the skate park

Phil mentions French King highway rezoning finally passing

Carole: Shared news gift of solar roof for the new DPW office building. Tells the story of how she twisted the donor's arm

Minutes approved

Mary if an "open space committee required"

Make it Master Plan priorities list

Add Mary and others agreed with Nancy

DPW updates:

Marlo:

Sanderson St. will be completed this weekend

West Street complete

Wisdom Way nearly complete. Ribbon cutting to come. Been dealing with that hillside for 20 years

Dewatering project: Negotiating for engineering and design 18 months deadline

Generator up to the mill brook. 15th week waiting for generator from Europe

Just received \$200,000 grant for lead and copper removal for our water system. Deadline Nov. 24.

Newell Pond water main project complete

Bid for Nash's Mill 12-inch main replacement being prepared (pipe to go under bridge) approx \$680,000

Sidewalk upper end of Wells St.

Putting \$230,000 in-house bid for sidewalks

Jonah asks whether water runoff could be recovered on downhill side of Sanderson for a water garden

Mary asks whether planning for trees could be included as part of planning

Hannah mentions the good news of the parking report — that Greenfield has plenty of parking and that it's a matter of moving cars around rather than building new parking garage.

Mary update on tree grant

2018 US Forest service grant for 800 trees to 5 years

So far planted 640. 103 trees remaining.

45 planted so far this spring

July 15 open house for other tree committees at tree nursery

Getting commitments from homeowners to water trees

Hannah starts SGIC Priorities and Accomplishments discussion

More drilling into the items follows

Agricultural commission in charter, but not staffed or funded — Mary has dealt with agricultural commissions e.g. Health, did a lot of positive work. Sought grants. George and Mary volunteer to look into charter of ag commission

Nancy: Suggests committee approach newly elected mayor about revisiting Open Space commission

Bicycle infrastructure: George recommends recreation of a bicycle committee. Phil suggests approaching Bicycle World owner. Carole makes pitch for supporting e-bikes. willing to promote as alternative to cars. Phil suggests that bike maps get remade when Main Street bike lanes are built. Beth Giannini is bike contact at FRCG. AAA now offers 2 visits for bicycle breakdowns

FRTA advocating for better service. Erik updates. George reports on access program and ongoing debate about making the COVID free fares permanent.

Electric buses: Nancy reports that it's a high priority at the state level, waiting for the money.

Downtown revitalization plan: Plan is finalized, implementation is in limbo waiting for MJ's replacement.

Downtown art and activities and beautification GBA Easthampton has a staffer in charge of this and it worked very well. Urban agenda grant would do this.

Jonah: Points out that in one meeting we came up with four committees we could advocate for

Hannah: Employers are a good way in to finding volunteers for committees

Meeting adjourned at 5:30.