



TOWN OF CONCORD
2229 Main Street Advisory Task Force
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2023

Call to Order at 7:00pm

Members present: (in person) Paul Boehm, Rich Feeley, Carrie Flood, Kurt Herman, Gary Kleiman, David Ropeik, (Via Zoom) Pam Hill, Karl Seidman.

Also Present: Terri Ackerman (Select Board liaison), Pam Rockwell (2229 Main Street Oversight Committee), Megan Zammuto (Deputy Town Manager).

Each of the members present introduced themselves, with a brief discussion of their relevant expertise/experience and the reasons for their interest in serving on the Task Force.

Ms. Ackerman convened the meeting prior to the election of officers. She briefly explained the Select Board's charge to the Task Force. A more detailed discussion of the charge followed election of Officers.

The Task Force voted unanimously to elect Paul Boehm as Chair and Carrie Flood as Vice Chair. Mr. Feeley volunteered to serve as Secretary for this meeting.

Prior to substantive discussions about the charge, the Task Force discussed with Ms. Ackerman the requirements of the Open Meeting Law. Any discussion by a quorum of members in any venue is subject to the requirements of the Open Meeting law, and must be announced on a properly posted agenda with discussion held at a public meeting. There will be no group discussions over email.

One on one discussions between Task Force members are permitted. The Chair suggested that proposed documents or discussion items be flagged to him, and that he would see that they are placed on the public meeting agenda. Recognizing the complexity of its task, the Task Force discussed the possibility of creating Sub Task Forces, but initially rejected this as too cumbersome. Individual Task Force members may undertake research or drafting tasks, and may consult one on one with outside experts or other Task Force members, but any resulting documents should be sent to the Chair for discussion and possible modification at an Open Meeting.

A discussion followed on the Task Force's charge and the relationship to the 2229 Main Street Oversight Committee (MSOC), chaired by Ms. Rockwell. Ms. Ackerman gave a brief history of the Town's relationship with the site, noting that 2015 Town Meeting authorized (but did not require) the Select Board to acquire the property at some future date after clean up is largely complete. The Select Board now looks to the Task Force to recommend to the Select Board whether or not the Town should acquire the site, and to recommend protections and institutional guarantees should the Select Board elect to do so. The Task Force charge is posted on the Town website, along with other background documents.

While the Task Force is not expected to make definitive recommendations on the specific uses to be made of the site, it is expected to consider such uses in making its recommendation. Several members of the Task Force served on the NMI/Starmet Reuse Task Force which produced a report on possible uses at the site in 2021. This report is available on the web site of the current Task Force.

While the specific charge to the Task Force is to make recommendation to the Town about acquisition of the site, the Task Force may address possible uses by an outside buyer or buyers if it recommends the Town not acquire the site.

The Task Force discussed resources available to assist in its Task. A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) in the amount of \$20,000 is available from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (copy of grant attached to the Agenda for this meeting) and the Town is in the process of finalizing that contract.. Ms. Rockwell indicated that the clean-up contractor (de maximus) and the organization tasked with monitoring technical aspects of the clean-up (the MSOC) would be available to provide information to the Task Force.

Ms. Rockwell offered to arrange a tour of the site for the Task Force. The offer was welcomed, but members asked that the tour be delayed until the Task Force was more fully organized. Ms. Rockwell also offered to host a public tour of the site, but Mr. Ropeik suggested that this and any community meetings should not occur until the Task Force had better developed its Risk Communication and outreach plan.

The Task Force then discussed setting a regular schedule of meetings twice per month. Subsequently, the Chair polled members and set Tuesday as the regular meeting day, with meetings alternating between morning and evening. The next meetings are:

June 13 at 0800

June 27 at 1930

The Chair asked Task Force members, prior to the next meeting, to think about assuming the lead for different tasks within the Task Force Charge.

At approximately 2100, he Task Force voted unanimously to adjourn.