

Master Plan Advisory Committee – Town of Spencer



*Minutes*

Master Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

***June 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM***

***In-Person & Remote***

McCourt Social Hall, 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562  
Memorial Town Hall

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**Master Plan Advisory Committee Members Present:** Chair, Taylor Wentworth (in-person), Vice Chair, Jared Grigg (in-person), Clerk, Dennis Shiver (in-person), Vaughn Slack (in-person) and Carol McPherson (remote)

**Master Plan Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Steve Cary, Howie Letendre

**Staff Present:** Lauren Vivier, Town Planner/Conservation Agent (in-person), Jeffery Bridges, Town Administrator (in-person)

**Staff Absent:** None

**CMRCP Members Present:** Elena Ion (remote)

**1. Call to order.**

The Chair opened the meeting at 5:34 pm

**2. Announcement of open meeting recording**

Ms. Wentworth made an announcement of this being an open meeting and that it is recorded.

**3. Discussion: Community Visioning Night**

Ms. Ion stated that the Visioning Night event was a success. Fifty-three workshop participants signed in. Overall we have 317 survey responses. Ms. Ion then stepped through the quantitative responses from each station.

Visioning

- In 20 years Spencer will be (top responses):
  - Welcoming, Friendly, Vibrant, Affordable, Safe
- In 20 years, Spencer will be committed to (top responses):
  - Aging Friendly, Community, Rural Character, Affordability, Business Growth, Preservation
- In 20 years Spencer will value (top responses):
  - People, Families, Education, History, Opportunities

Housing and Land Use

Selections for the types of housing that the person would be comfortable with:

- The greatest number of positive responses were for senior housing, small scale mixed use, tiny house communities and adaptive reuse.
- The greatest number of negative responses were for large scale apartments and large scale condominiums.

#### Economic Development – Town Center Revitalization

The greatest number of positive responses were for a façade improvement program, startup incentives, loans for small business, and street events & art festivals.

#### Open Space & Recreation

The greatest number of responses were for hiking/biking, maintenance & conservation, important natural/cultural resources, a recreation center and a dog park.

Historic resources will be further analyzed and discussed in a subsequent meeting.

#### Town Services

Funding/prioritizing the services which received the greatest number of positive responses were education, transportation/roads and economic development.

### **4. Discussion: Next Steps**

A final assembly of the survey responses will be done by CMRPC when the survey closes in about two weeks.

Qualitative responses will be analyzed and summarized.

A brief discussion about the next workshop ensued, projected for October.

CMRPC will set up stakeholder interviews soon.

The 2003 vision statement will be examined and a new vision statement will be developed.

### **5. Other Business**

The next meeting date is set for July 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM.

### **6. Approval of the minutes from 5/15/2023**

**MOTION: Approval of minutes by Mr. Grigg**

**SECOND: Mr. Slack**

**DISCUSSION: None**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Ms. McPherson, Mr. Grigg, Mr. Shiver, Ms. Wentworth, Mr. Slack all voted aye (vote 5-0) motion carried.**

### **7. Adjournment**

**MOTION: Mr. Grigg motioned to adjourn at 6:36 PM**

**SECONDED: Mr. Slack**

**VOTE: Ms. McPherson, Mr. Grigg, Mr. Shiver, Mr. Slack, Ms. Wentworth all voted aye  
(vote 5-0) motion carried.**

**Submitted by (Dennis Shiver), Minutes Clerk**

**Reviewed by Lauren Vivier, Town Planner/Conservation Agent**

**Approved by the Master Plan Advisory Committee on: May 15, 2023**