



# *Town of Southwick*

## Master Plan Advisory Committee



### MINUTES

**March 16, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

**Joint “Hybrid” Meeting of the Master Plan Advisory Committee and the Planning Board:  
In-person at the Town Hall Auditorium, Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway,  
Southwick, MA and also open for participation via Zoom (*Per the Chapter 20 Acts of 2021*)**

#### **Written Minutes**

*(Not verbatim - comments can be heard on recordings available at [www.southwickma.org](http://www.southwickma.org))*

#### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER & MPAC MEMBER Marcus Phelps  
PLANNING BOARD MEMBER & MPAC MEMBER David Spina  
SELECT BOARD MEMBER Doug Moglin  
DPW MEMBER Randy Brown  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBER David DeiDolori  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBER Burt Hansen  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBER Dave MacWilliams  
LAKES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER Norm Cheever  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER Michael McMahon  
OWNER OF TOWN BUSINESS Scott Lamon, Tynic Landscaping  
RESIDENT Dorrie Boyd  
RESIDENT Roz Terry  
RESIDENT Cori Rolland  
RESIDENT Maryssa Cook-Obregón

#### **TOWN STAFF:**

TOWN PLANNER Jon Goddard

#### **ABSENT:**

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR & MPAC MEMBER (*ex officio*) Michael Doherty  
PLANNING BOARD MEMBER Richard Utzinger  
PLANNING BOARD MEMBER David Sutton  
PLANNING BOARD ASSOCIATE MEMBER Jessica Thornton  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER Patrick Jubb  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER Aleda DeMaria

RESIDENT Jessica Whitmore Parker  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER Lucas Caron  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER Maria Michael  
PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY Meghan Lightcap

Also attending the meeting were several people identified on Zoom.

The joint “hybrid” meeting of the Southwick Planning Board and Master Plan Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as the MPAC) was scheduled to take place via Zoom and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Phelps. He stated that the meeting was being recorded, asked if anyone else was recording the meeting, and asked if all people could hear via Zoom.

1. Roll call for attendance of Committee Members

Mr. Phelps noted that there was no quorum of the Planning Board at this meeting.

2. Public Comment and Dialogue

None

3. Old Business

- a. Update on Future Focus Groups Meetings – Town Planner Jon Goddard said the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 am for the *Climate Change and Sustainability Focus Group*.
- b. Comment on Draft Technical Reports– Ken Comia of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission said he uploaded the Land Use chapter this afternoon and they are working on getting the reports completed by the end of the month. Then they will begin exploring strategies, as they come forward, based on what the content writers have taken from the focus groups. The implementation strategy will happen after that, and the members will be able to review those chapters in Google Drive.

4. New Business

- a. Report on Housing Focus Group – Mr. Phelps said there was a focus group held on March 9<sup>th</sup> on Housing and Maryssa Cook-Obregón, Doug Moglin and Michael McMahon participated in it. He said there was a high demand for lower housing prices and explained some of the details of the discussion. Ms. Cook-Obregón said she spoke with developers and realtors from an economic standpoint in regard to finding a balance between what the Master Plan survey results said; minimal residential development, affordable housing and conserving open space. Mr. Moglin said it was an engaging conversation and it was good to hear different perspectives. Mr. Comia said there was a lot of discussion about how housing overlaps with other elements; open space and land use. He said this meeting complements the housing production plan.

Resident Diane Gale of 5 Point Grove Road said it was also mentioned that there is a need for apartments for the younger generation.

- b. Report on Youth Listening Session – Mr. Phelps said the session was held the day before at the high school with Assistant Principal Michael Pescitelli. Mr. Goddard said there were 11 students in attendance as well as Sabrina Pooler the Conservation Coordinator, Mr. Phelps and Ms. Cook-Obregón. Mr. Phelps said they received some good feedback; such as having places to gather after school, proper street crossings like College Highway as it's a dangerous road and more jobs for wintertime as most are summer and seasonal jobs. Ms. Cook-Obregón said she was surprised that they recognized the need for balance between open space and housing and density. She said that several students said they wish there had been more time to discuss other topics and she thinks it would be great to engage them again further along the way.

5. Routine Business

- a. Approval of March 2, 2023, meeting minutes. The minutes will be voted on at the next meeting.
- b. Committee Member Comments. There were no comments.

*Being no further business to be brought before the committee, A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Terry and **SECONDED** by Mr. MacWilliams to close the meeting at 7:48 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.*

*The Next Scheduled Meeting is April 6, 2023.*

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Lightcap  
Planning Board Administrative Assistant

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Marcus Phelps

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Jessica Whitmore Parker

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David Spina

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Doug Moglin

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Randy Brown

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David DeiDolori

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Burt Hansen

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Dave MacWilliams

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Norm Cheever

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Patrick Jubb

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Aleda DeMaria

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