

## **MADAKET AREA PLAN WORKGROUP**

**MINUTES: December 8, 2023**

**Approved 12 January 2024**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Bruce Mandel called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

### **ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE**

Attendees: Leslie Forbes, Ethan Devine, Peter Haffenreffer, David Madigan, Bruce Mandel, Michael Maynard, Lars Soderberg, Tom Erichsen, Joseph Topham: NPEDC representative

Absent: Collier, Molden, Bell, Pochman

Tech Support for Zoom: Bill Grieder

### **CHAIR MANDEL READ REQUIRED NOTICES FOR A PUBLIC MEETING**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Chair Mandel was elected previously. Leslie Forbes has volunteered to take minutes. There are no other officers at this time.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:** Agenda was accepted unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES of October 13, 2023 Meeting :** M Maynard moved that Minutes be approved as submitted. J Topham, seconded, Motion approved

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mary Wawro, Secretary of the Civic League, asked if Mary Longacre, Chair of the NPEDC, was in attendance. Chair Mandel replied that she was not, nor was she scheduled to be present. Ms Wawro asked if Joe Topham was our NPEDC liaison. Chair Mandel replied yes. Ms Wawro asked about the status of other Area Plans. Chair Mandel replied that it was not appropriate to use Madaket Area Plan meeting time to discuss other area plans. Ms Wawro was invited to attend NPEDC meeting, and/or email L Snell or M Longacre.

### **COMPOSITION OF MAP WG AND CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS**

Chair Mandel announced that Catherine Slattery resigned from the MAP-WG.

Chair Mandel reviewed Chapter assignments as recorded on June 1, 2021, and asked members to confirm their continued interest. Many members wanted more time to review. Members to confirm with Chair Mandel.

- L Forbes confirmed participation in Land Use, declined participation in Housing and Circulation, and volunteered to edit the final document.
- JTopham added his name to Housing and to Economic Development.
- D Madigan confirmed participation in Economic Development, and Services.
- M Maynard confirmed participation in Land Use, Natural & Cultural Resources, and Services, and added his name to Open Space.

L Forbes emailed a deeper list of considerations for each chapter, based on data that came from the two large surveys the WG designed to solicit resident priorities.

Chair Mandel will merge the deeper list with a 2021 list, and put it on the agenda for discussion at our January meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Mandel noted that the Master Long Range Transportation Plan for the Town has been accepted by the Select Board. There is a section on Madaket. Discussion on how best for WG to get an overview, and the Transportation Chapter to get a more detailed discussion.

Chair Mandel will ask Michael Burns, the Transportation Planner, if he can give an Executive Summary to the WG, and then meet with the volunteers of the Transportation Chapter for a detailed discussion to inform their Chapter.

M Wawro asked if the NPEDC has indicated that Sub-Groups such as the Transportation Chapter are covered by the Open Meeting Law (OML.) During a 07 December 23 “chat” session with Mandel, Maynard, and Forbes to make sure we were all working off the same page, L Snell and M Longacre opined that Sub-Groups are subject to OML. Since Sub-Groups are small (3-7 volunteers) most meetings will reach a quorum (> half the members.) and trigger OML. A suggested work-around from L Snell: assign individuals to work independently, and ask them to report research and proposals to whole group for discussion during a Posted Meeting. A helpful distinction from L Snell: If there is “deliberation” the meeting is subject to OML. Updating or reporting, with no decisions or discussion, to another group is not subject to OML. For example: the WG can report on its work to the MCA without violating OML.

L Snell, M Longacre, and J Topham indicate there are training videos on OML that are helpful. Chair Mandel will ask for the links again. It is recommended that members view them.

L Snell & M Longacre indicated that MAP WG should use the NPEDC for Zoom channel, the posting of agendas/minutes. In the short term, WG will contact Megan Trudel. M Longacre will let us know what the long-term plan is.

L Snell indicated that PLUS wants a staff person in addition to Commissioner J Topham in our meetings to provide planning protocol on area plans. She did not have a solution in mind yet.

B Grieder spoke to the difficulty of finding an open slot on the Town Zoom Channel and of finding a person to operate the technology. Since 8 Sub Groups are subject to OML, the logistics are geometrically increased. The workload is beyond the availability of Madaket volunteers. L Snell recognizes the WG needs resources from PLUS, and will work on a solution.

M Wawro asked if the “chat” was an open noticed meeting. Chair Mandel indicated that the meeting was not initiated by MAP-WG, that there were 3 members present (not a quorum) and the discussion centered around OML questions. Chair Mandel suggested the M Wawro reach out to L Snell or M Longacre.

#### **FUTURE MEETING DATES:**

- All meetings going forward will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month, from 4:00 – 5:30 PM.
- Next Meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 12, 2024
- Chair Mandel will reach out to Megan Trudel to get the Zoom channel booked.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- D Madigan moved to adjourn the meeting. M Maynard seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 4:55PM

*Submitted by Leslie Forbes*