SELECT BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting of October 22, 2024. The meeting took place in person at the second floor Training Room at 4 Fairgrounds Road. Members present were Brooke Mohr, Thomas Dixon, Matt Fee, Dawn Holdgate and Dr. Malcolm MacNab.

Also present were C. Elizabeth Gibson, Town Manager; Gregg Tivnan and Rick Sears, Assistant Town Managers; Julia Novak and her colleague Cielo Sharkus of Raftelis. Strategic Plan Advisor Janet Schulte joined remotely.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM.

II. ANNUAL SELECT BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN RETREAT

Ms. Novak reviewed the agenda for the retreat using the materials in the agenda packet. Each participant introduced themselves and reviewed expectations for today's retreat. The Strategic Plan Focus Area Leaders each provided a summary of their Area, with associated goal progress as follows:

Housing Focus Area – Housing Director Kristie Ferrantella
Transportation Focus Area – Public Works Director Andrew Patnode
Environmental Leadership Focus Area – Natural Resources Director Jeff Carlson
Efficient and Effective Town Operations Focus Area – Assistant Town Manager Rick Sears
Healthy and Vibrant Communities Focus Area – Assistant Town Manager Gregg Tivnan

Mr. Tivnan noted that each Focus Area was reviewed with the Board, through presentations at Board meetings, since May of 2024.

Ms. Novak spoke to connections between the Town's statutorily required Master Plan and the Board's Strategic Plan and noted other related plans and municipal activities that connect to both, including the budget, capital improvement plan and departmental operational and strategic plans. Chair Mohr elaborated on this and stated her desire to address community areas of concern through a community engagement process which focuses on collaborative approaches. She said that such an initiative will necessitate Town boards and agencies working together toward the collaborative approaches and agreeing on common goals, with public input. Discussion followed on Chair Mohr's idea. Ms. Novak suggested that the Board consider how, specifically, it will collaborate with the Planning Board and develop the approach Chair Mohr is suggesting. Chair Mohr and Mr. Fee indicated that additional staff and/or other resources will or may be needed to further accomplish this idea. Discussion proceeded on this, as well as how the Select Board and Planning Board could jointly approach integration between their Plans, and developing priorities, with public input and engagement. There was general initial consensus expressed as to adding an item relating to additional resources to further Chair Mohr's suggestion to the Efficient and Effective Town Operations Focus Area.

Ms. Novak asked about other emerging issues that the Board may have. Mr. Fee said "enforcement" is a common complaint by the public that should be addressed and included somewhere in the Board's plan. He expressed an opinion that the Select Board should be more involved in certain enforcement decisions. Dr. MacNab spoke on the Town's governmental structure and associated decision-making that is not necessarily vested with the Select Board. Chair Mohr concurred and said that Town Meeting voters are ultimately responsible for making the bylaws that the Board and/or other Boards responsible for specifically enforcing. Discussion proceeded on this topic and how policies, bylaws and enforcement work. Mr. Fee suggested expanding the timed parking district before this summer. Ms. Holdgate suggested engaging New England Development to enforce No Overnight Parking in the downtown Stop and Shop Parking Lot. Discussion followed on both of these issues. Ms. Novak suggested the Board reach definitive consensus on items to add to the Plan and/or remove. The Board reviewed as follows:

Add Public Engagement with respect to Master Plan and/or Select Board Strategic Plan: Agreed.

Enforcement and examination of enforcement capacity: Chair Mohr suggested that when a Board member wants a specific discussion about a specific enforcement area, it should be brought to the Chair and Vice Chair for placement on a Board agenda, rather than being added to the Board's Strategic Plan. Discussion followed. There was general agreement to leave it off and address as it comes up.

Parking issues as brought up by Mr. Fee and Ms. Holdgate: General consensus to include these two items.

Mr. Fee suggested that the issue of increasing public engagement also be taken up by the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission.

Ms. Novak reviewed a survey recently undertaken by Town Administration's Communications Division regarding the Board's Strategic Plan Focus Areas. Mr. Tivnan provided an overview of the survey and its results, which are considered statistically relevant.

Ms. Novak reviewed roles of the Select Board and staff and who is responsible for what, by Charter and typically in government. Ms. Gibson referred to the Town Charter and cautioned the Board to be cognizant of it.

Ms. Novak reviewed a recently developed and proposed Mission and Values Statement that the Cabinet came up with. Mr. Sears reviewed the statement. The Board expressed appreciation and support for the statement as put forward.

The Board members perused the Focus Area goals and progress. It was generally agreed to add an additional goal relating to bike path signage. Ms. Gibson noted that an educational campaign should accompany this goal. Some discussion followed.

The Board members and Town staff each gave "parting thoughts".

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Approved the 6th day of November 2024.

SELECT BOARD
OCTOBER 22, 2024 – 9:00 AM
SECOND FLOOR TRAINING ROOM, 4 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS

List of documents used at the meeting:

II. Memo from Julia Novak/Raftelis re: Strategic Plan Workshop; Strategic Plan retreat links