

## **Minutes of the MBTA Task Force Subcommittee on Communications and Outreach**

**August 29, 2024**

August 29, 2024      10:30 a.m.      In-person and virtual

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sandy Bodmer-Turner, Gar Morse, Chris Olney, Susan Philbrick

**SELECTBOARD/TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ann Harrison

**STAFF PRESENT:**      Tiffany Marletta, Communications Director; Greg Federspiel, Town Administrator

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m.

Ms. Marletta provided an update regarding improvements to the Town website and email.

Ms. Bodmer-Turner explained the status of data collection regarding impact of loss of grant funding if MBTA zoning does not pass:

- Chart provided by Bion FYI 2023-2027
- Draft: Grants FYI 2014-2023, organized by 5-year bands
- Budgeting is done on fiscal year (July – June)
- Work to identify the grants listed in Statute, those mentioned in Guidelines, others discretionary
- Mr. Federspiel will send Mass Housing Authority data to Ms. Bodmer-Turner
- Fincom will review/supplement

Ms. Marletta summarized upcoming engagement events:

- Manchester Women's Club: Sept. 17, noon: Ms. Philbrick, Ms. Melish, Ms. Harrison and Ms. Bodmer-Turner will attend
- Public Forum: Sept 21, 10-12 a.m. Town Common – Masons' possible rain location; include two Boards illustrating tables summarizing facts of districts. Mr. Olney will be absent, so Ms. Philbrick will lead discussion.
- Council on Aging: Sept. 24 in-person cancelled; prepare simple flyer to include in box lunches
- Virtual Public Forum - Oct. 2, 7 p.m. Town Hall – Ms. Philbrick will be absent
- Manchester Club: October 17, dinner: Mr. Olney, Mr. Morse and others
- Boosters' Carnival: October 18-20; Table on Saturday - possibly share with Select Board
- Large Public Forum at High School tentatively set for Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m.
- Ms. Bodmer-Turner will contact Rotary

Mr. Olney provided an update regarding outstanding consultant's analyses and discussed possible alternatives if not received within next few weeks.

Ms. Philbrick led a discussion of possible media/written outreach ideas:

- Ms. Marletta suggested two banners: footbridge, and convenience store
- Ms. Marletta will consult with Mr. Resnick re: FAQ to pinpoint status of all 177 towns
- Content, cost and size of mailings were discussed: maps, QR codes. Ms. Marletta will prepare a draft of a sample postcard.
- Next Quarterly Newsletter: Ms. Marletta will draft and circulate, comments and edits prior to next meeting. Will emphasize sources available to residents to learn more.
- Mr. Olney and Ms. Bodmer-Turner's document: Ms. Harrison will work on a one-page summary.

Committee discussion of status of filming/summarizing each individual proposed district for inclusion on the Town website:

- Video of Beach St. To Sea Street will be reshot and shortened.
- Ms. Philbrick and Ms. Marletta rescheduled filming for the Allen to Lincoln Street District.
- Mr. Morse will explain the Beaver Dam Road District in September
- No Task Force members volunteered to film Pine/Newport Park etc, so Ms. Philbrick and Ms. Bodmer-Turner will work on it
- Ms. Marletta will investigate wireless microphones
- Ms. Harrison suggested making Newport and Powderhouse their own videos
- Ms. Marletta emphasized “why we’re here” - discussion of Path to Compliance after showing map of entire Town with districts.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. Ms. Bodmer-Turner moved to approve, and Mr. Olney seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m..

**Public Comment:**

- Sarah Pierce, Friend Street: emphasize stick to the facts; requested clarification regarding location of four-story building height maximum; people are concerned about traffic and infrastructure.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. upon motion by Ms. Harrison; seconded by Mr. Morse, and passed unanimously.

