

Chingsung Chang

Historic District Commission met on 6/10. A variety of different areas were discussed, including the West Acton center project as well as the recent proposal to changes to Town Center area. HDC decided to submit some recommendations as far as what they would like to see in the plan for Town Center

Economic Development Committee met on 6/4. Primary area of discussion was once again the new town position. Projects to be undertaken by the EDC as well as the EDC charter/objectives were also discussed.

Franny Osman

May 29- CrossTown Connect, Maynard Town Hall

One exciting movement forward is working out how to share resources across the Regional Transit Authority Lines and among different towns. If we can take a passenger from Littleton to Emerson, and pick up a Boxborough resident on the way, the Boxborough van is freed up to take a different kind of trip elsewhere.

June 4- Metropolitan Planning Org. meets in Acton

Acton introductions were expressed by Mike Gowing, Doug Halley, Roland Bartl, and Steve Ledoux. MPO carried out its usual business, hosted by Acton. MinuteVan service was provided from the train. They voted 60K to be moved from station maintenance to winter resilience. Looked at an upcoming passenger survey. Their Long Range plan was introduced: "Charting Progress to 2040."

June 4- MAGIC subregion of Metropolitan Area Planning Council Annual Meeting in Concord

I was elected to vice-chair position. Other vice-chair is Les Fox, Boxborough Selectman. Chair is Keith Bergman, Town Administrator of Littleton. MAGIC voted on adoption of our subregional 2016 Work Plan. Voted its priority focus for the next year: Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for our area. Another of the eight top projects was the First Mile/Last Mile Follow-up Work to the CrossTown Connect 2015 study done by the Central Transportation Planning Staff of the Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Voted to spend 25k, matched with another 25k from MAPC, for the Climate Change work. Heard a Complete Streets State Program update. Many Town reports. Concord looking at all possible ways to slow increase in house tear-downs.

June 5- Open Space Committee

A lot of parcels under discussion. Continued conversations planned regarding Magoon parcel which abuts Great Hill Conservation Land and was recently appraised. The Choate parcel near Fort Pond had 90 days more (as of this meeting) for the town to respond to the Right of First Refusal notice. Sorry to hear that Ernie Anderson passed away.

June 5- Site Walk of potential sites for Senior Center

Joined Marion Maxwell, Sharon Mercurio and Dean Charter to look at Arlington St. and Quarry Rd. town-owned sites for possible Senior Center locations.

June 5- ABRHS Graduation

June 9- Commission on Disability Retreat

This event allows the group to focus more deeply on certain topics and on developing our vision for the next three years, as well as to get to know each other better. It's nice to have a new member, Nancy Corcoran, and we are missing Karen Troy who recently stepped down.

June 9- League of Women Voters Annual Meeting at The Local Table

June 10- Cemetery Commission meeting

More discussion of the property adjacent to Mt. Hope Cemetery. The Cemetery Commission would like to share the cost of the property with the Town (Community Preservation funds, presumably) for open space and burial. Alternative is two or three large homes immediately adjacent to Mt. Hope. The owner has offered the property for sale to the Town. The Cemetery Commission will meet with Town Counsel to clarify questions about this process.

June 10- Senior Center Study Committee Meeting

Our goal is to choose a site on which to base a feasibility study and conceptual design that we voted in May to have done. Subcommittees are working on Site Review, Economic Impact, Fundraising ideas, Public Relations, Program and Space, and Outreach.

June 15- Dean Charter's retirement party.

Congratulations to Dean! Steve Ledoux presented the BOS Citation to Dean (which in retrospect I wish I had stepped to the front to present on our behalf!). I am very glad that Dean will stay on as arborist and that he will move to a regular member of the Senior Center Study Committee so we retain his expertise on that committee.

June 15, 17- Survey working group for Senior Center Study Committee

Making headway designing a survey to help guide the development of the Senior Center.

June 16- Commission on Disability

One activity of note is creation of a guide to what businesses offer in terms of access for people with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities. Members of the commission are asking businesses to tell us their news on this front and the presentation of the info will also serve as advertising.

June 16- Conference Call re: MAGIC Climate Change Adaptation initiative

This subgroup got MAGIC started on this work of the next year.

June 17- United Way Annual Meeting

United Way released their Community Needs Assessment this week. The large report and the executive summary are both available at www.ABUW.org. This was a project involving data collection, focus groups, interviews, a survey, and many hands. Amazing, complete report on what the various age groups of people in the A-B area need in terms of financial and family supports. This work will help guide United Way and towns' decisionmaking. I was glad to see so many members of the Town staff at the Annual Meeting, including Frank Widmayer, Kelley Cronin, and Laura Ducharme.

Janet K. Adachi, Clerk

Acton Community Housing Corporation, Thursday, 5/21 – 7/20 meeting with Selectmen and Planning Board for approval of housing production plan. Public meeting perhaps in summer about Four Winds proposal for Elm Street, including group home.

Acton Water District –Monday, 6/15 meeting cancelled.

Conservation Commission, Wednesday, 6/17 – Discussion of proposed updated/consolidated regulations for conservation lands; Natural Resources Department plan to have harvester clear water chestnuts in Ice House Pond.

Design Review Board, Wednesday, 6/17 – Ms. Adachi missed meeting due to public-outreach meeting about proposed stormwater bylaw, and Conservation Commission meeting.

Finance Committee – Tuesday, 6/9 – Ms. Adachi missed meeting due to annual meeting of Acton Area League of Women Voters. Next meeting Tuesday, 6/30. Chairman Mike Majors hoping to set up another meeting of 3 boards: Finance Committee, Selectmen, School Committee.

Land Stewardship Committee, Tuesday, 6/16 – Update by former LSC member Linda McElroy about Trail Through Time, proposed trail locations. Discussion of storage, scheduling arrangements for mowers, other equipment; need for increased collaboration with Natural Resources Department for mowing, clearing, etc. that stewards cannot cover.

Water Resources Advisory Committee, Wednesday, 6/17, 7:00 p.m., Public Safety Facility – Public outreach session about proposed stormwater bylaw. Very small audience so repeat-session will be necessary. Ms. Adachi recommends greater Town staff involvement at this point, to assist with public outreach and preparations for Special Town Meeting in November.

Other:

Acton-Boxborough high school graduation, Friday, 6/5 – Ms. Adachi and husband Jim Gado attended. As always, festive and poignant. Excellent student speakers.

Boy Scouts, Friday, 6/12 –Ms. Adachi met with AB freshman Pratheek Hegde, who is working on Government badge, wanted to know about municipal government, how residents might get involved.

Classical quartet, Thursday, 6/18, 6:30 pm, NARA – Members from "A Far Cry"

performing Beethoven, Puccini, Schubert string quartets (Beethoven Op. 18, No. 5, Puccini "I Crisantemi" for string quartet, Schubert No. 10, D.87).

495/Metrowest Partnership, Water Resources Committee, Tuesday, 6/30, 8:30 am – Ms. Adachi will attend.

Pete and Jens Backyard Birds – Organic farmers: produce, poultry, pork. Current arrangement with Verrill Farm in Concord will be ending, so looking for spot with at least 6 acres that could use for crops and grazing. Various people in town with open-space and agricultural connections have submitted inquiry to Town Manager, Selectmen Chairman about Morrison Farm, and are exploring other potential locales in Acton.

Katie Green, Chairman

I attended the **Acton Area League of Women Voters'** Annual Meeting. As always, it was a great event reviewing successes from the past year and looking forward to activities planned for the coming year. The **Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee** met and heard presentations from three of the elementary schools on their transformation plans. They also had a presentation on upcoming changes to the elementary science curriculum. The Committee also had a presentation and discussion on proposed changes to their bus passing policy. This is a controversial issue and many parents were in attendance to express their opinions. The Committee will have another discussion of the policy at a future meeting. They also had an update on their FY'15 revenue and expenditures. There is some rumor that part of the regional transportation aid cut by Governor Patrick as part of the 9C cuts could be restored. However, it's unclear if it will be restored as part of the FY'15 or FY'16 budget. The **Acton Leadership Group** met for the first time since town meeting. Peter Berry and I will represent the Board of Selectmen, Kristina Rychlik and Paul Murphy will represent the School Committee, and Mike Majors and Margaret Busse will represent the Finance Committee. The group had updates from the towns and the region on the status of their respective FY'15 budgets. There was nothing major to report. The group also discussed holding a three-boards meeting similar to the ones in past years. The School Committee has discussed holding a five boards meeting with the Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees from both Acton and Boxborough to do a "Regional School Budget 101" presentation. The group agreed to discuss the proposals for one or both meetings with their boards and to send out potential dates in early October to hold time in case we agree to a meeting.