

## HARVARD TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 8, 2022

**Time:** 7:00PM

**Place:** Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:** Stacia Donahue, Bruce Leicher, Gabriel Medjanis, Jim Lee, Rene Turnheim, Suzie Allen, Pam Marston, Beth Williams

**Others Present:** Chris Ryan (Director of Community and Economic Development); Ellen Sachs-Leicher (HCIC)

G.Medjanis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, under M.G.L. Chapter 30A S20 and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 125

### **1. Transportation Plan Update:**

C.Ryan has repeatedly contacted MRPC via email and voicemail to obtain a status update or a timetable for when the draft update will be provided. MRPC has not responded to any outreach efforts. B.Leicher asked for a copy of the draft copy we have and contact information so we can proceed after C.Ryan has finished his term. S.Donahue will be attending the MRPC monthly meeting on 6/9/22 and will ask for a status update. C.Ryan will contact Glenn Eaton of MRPC (Director) to ask for action on this item on behalf of the town.

### **2. Purpose of the Committee:**

B.Leicher and GMedjanis expressed disappointment with the lack of communication between Select Board (SB) and the TAC. Questioned that if we're being ignored what is the point of the committee?

P.Marston felt that the TAC should be more pushy with getting it's opinions out to the SB and Town Administrator as we represent the community at large and 4 of the major boards that deal with transportation related issues.

B.Williams noted that for the boards and committees she serves on that there is a need to copy Julie Doucet (Town's Admin director) and all SB members with voted resolutions and major decisions so that information is communicated.

B.Leicher feels the SB needs to explain why they are not engaging the TAC for anything transportation related. See Action Item below.

S.Donahue asked if more should be pushed back to Planning Board (PB) as the TAC is taking some of the work that is normally under the scope of PB to deal with. Will discuss at next PB meeting how to better engage with and support TAC from the PB side.

R.Turnheim questioned if TAC is being ignored special for any reason or is it normal that we're being ignored? C.Ryan noted that as a new committee, it's not common practice yet to be included so TAC is being forgotten about. B.Leicher noted the example: SB did not ask for or inquire with TAC about the proposal for a town wide speed limit. This was done without TAC input or support. Additionally, the comments for the TIP 10% review that were created, reviewed, and agreed upon by TAC were never discussed or reviewed at SB level.

C.Ryan noted that most boards use the chair position to move issues forward to other boards and committees and drive issues.

SDonahue asked if because there is now a strong Harvard Climate Initiative Committee (HCIC) which has overlap, should we have a member included in our group? Or should we be a subcommittee of the HCIC? C.Ryan noted that the Transportation Chapter being done by MRPC was supposed to include both groups and possibly show how the overlaps can happen effectively.

**Action Item- Ask for time at Select Board Meeting to discuss:**

- **How and if we should still be moving forward and what is expected from us.**
- **What will be done for us in terms of support after we lose the professional support TAC has received from CRyan?**

**3. Discussion of Roles, Terms, Staffing, and Files:**

Roles: CRyan noted that due to his end of term that someone needs to carry the administrative tasks forward. SDonahue will be default as the Clerk?

Terms: TAC has no established term limits in its original official charge. Most volunteer positions on other boards and committees have a 3-year limit that are offset so there's not turn over all at the same time.

SDonahue noted that the terms of the members that are reps of other boards would track with their terms on those boards if nothing else.

SAllen noted that representatives from School Board rotate annually so the School Board rep position can change annually.

BLeicher noted that we don't need to discuss this item until we're sure that SB still wants us to be a committee.

Staffing: CRyan noted that no staff support was ever dedicated to the TAC and that he supported the group outside of his actual job description (to which everyone was very thankful for). BLeicher noted that we should add to the SB Action Item a question about how TAC could be supported moving forward.

Files: RTurnheim will be taking the thumb drive of all of CRyan's files to upload to a OneDrive for use by TAC moving forward.

BLeicher noted that we don't need to discuss this item until we're sure that SB still wants us to be a committee.

**4. Meeting Notes:**

CRyan noted some of the meeting minutes were highlighted. SDonahue that the highlights were just to help remind CRyan of action items from last meeting when the notes were originally written. Highlights would be removed.

Mr. Leicher motioned to approve the minutes for 3/9/22 as submitted. Beth Williams 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Approved as submitted.

- 5. Other Business:** Members of TAC thanked CRyan for all his support, encouragement, guidance, and help over the last 2 years.

**6. Adjournment:**

Bruce Lee moved to adjourn. Pam Marston seconded. Unanimous agreement. Adjourned at 7:56pm.

Next meeting: TBD