

Minutes

Housatonic Improvement Committee

April 15, 2021

Attending: Patrick Barrett, Eric Gabriel, Angela Lomanto, and Beverly Nourse

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm. Eric Gabriel ran the meeting in Dan Bailly's absence.

Eric read the required Massachusetts statement.

Charette update:

- Angela sent Housatonic School photography and drone footage of the building's exterior to the committee and to Kerry Bartini.
- Patrick will follow-up on dates that will work for the charette.
- Eric mentioned that the Steiner School had taken a tour of the building and that there is a waiver available at town hall for anyone who would like to take a tour. Eric will send a message to Milltown Capital to ask if they have any interest in touring the building.

All Things Housatonic:

- Pat Hollenbeck asked questions about the school and Housatonic in general. They included: Could a sign be put in the Housatonic School for anyone interested in the building? Could Housatonic be designated an opportunity zone? What are the incentives available? What tax credits are available? Is it possible to apply for CDBG funds? Angela volunteered to contact Chris Rembold with the questions.
- A discussion continued about the mill buildings and if there was an inventory of available spaces. The committee wondered if mill building owners could be invited to a HIC meeting. Eric will follow-up with one, the owners of Muse.
- The Housatonic the Beautiful Fund, Inc. was discussed as the group that plants flowers in various places in Housatonic. It is completely funded by private donations. The contacts are Tom Norton Construction and Jim Stark.
- Main Street sidewalk project. It was noted that the work is continuing and that crosswalks have concrete pads on each side of the street.
- Ramsdell update. The library is understaffed at this point because of retirements and COVID. It seems to be forgotten by residents of the town but the library doesn't promote it because it's not handicapped accessible yet.
- It was noted that the Housatonic Water Works Co. will hold a meeting on April 27th.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 27th at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm by unanimous consent.

End of Minutes

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Lomato

