

Devens Citizens Advisory Committee

33 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA 01434

Meeting Notes

December 29, 2005

Devens Committee Members Present:

Mike Boucher, Bob Eisengrein, Phil Crosby, David Winters, and Tom Kinch

Other Present:

Harry and Judy Armstrong, Rick and Kathleen Bernklow, Linda Foster, Victor Normand, Rich Montouri

Call to order: 7 pm

Meeting Minutes:

Minutes approved: December 7, 2005

Election of new committee officers:

Mike Boucher was nominated to be chairman and by consensus was elected

David Winters was nominated to be vice chairman and by consensus was elected

Bob Eisengrein was nominated to be Secretary and by consensus was elected

Mike made a motion that in the future Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary should serve for one year, and committee officers should then be rotated between members.

DEAC matters:

Kathleen Bernklow discussed recent DEAC matters to update our committee. With reference to the selection of a school system for Devens students in grades 7-12, negotiations on selecting Littleton or Harvard are underway. A decision is expected by January 11, 2005. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Mass Dev Board of Directors for their decision and approval.

Victor added some details based on a DOE decision related to the position of Superintendent/Principal. In contracting to another town for services, they must provide Superintendent oversight. This fact conflicts with the present concept of having a Superintendent for the Essential School which has been advertised in a variety of newspapers.

In another area, it was felt important to have a link to DEAC on the web site that Phil is creating for the Devens Committee. It was also decided that we would have a quarterly meeting with DEAC.

DDEB Updates

- A. Coordinating Committee: there were no recent meetings;
- B. Governance Committee: work is continuing on the matter of Utilities in a separate subcommittee; the proposed M O U describing the remaining DDEB work to be done is being edited

- C. Finance Committee: they are awaiting information from the three towns on expense items to insert in the model for scenario 2B. The work ahead will project for residential and C/I growth the expected revenue for 4 five year periods, 2010, 2015, 2020, and 2025. Mike made a presentation on the model capabilities at the Shirley Selectman's meeting
- D. Housing & Transportation: there were no significant new matters to report.
- E. Land Use & Open Space: there were no significant new matters to report.
- F. Communications Committee: the original committee is virtually inactive and the original website is no longer in operation. Phil is creating a new web site which will incorporate as much of the old material as possible, and include a broad based system with links to all areas of importance to Devens residents. This will include minutes of meetings, important newspaper articles, and results of significant decisions related to disposition. Since Phil is doing this work alone, an attempt is being made to possibly obtain the services of some Parker school students to help. It was suggested by Mike that we request DDEB to adopt your site as the "official" web site. It would not be unreasonable to request some funds to support this work.

DDEB Meeting

The next Meeting is scheduled for 1/12/06 at 4pm.

New business:

It was proposed that we sponsor a "community participation meeting" on disposition and education. The date of Saturday January 21, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, was suggested and the meeting would be held at the Devens community center. Mike will contact kathleen bernklow on the education presentation portion The following tasks were assigned in preparation for this meeting:

- Dave Winters:
 - Draft a newsletter that would include the time and place
 - Topics, disposition and education update
 - Babysitting available for the morning
 - Residents can pre – e-mail questions on either topic
 - Described the meeting as one for resident participation
 - Provide repeat announcements of the meeting ASAP
 - Mass Dev agreed to send a mailing to all residents
- Tom Kinch;
 - Draft an agenda for the disposition section of the meeting
- Bob Eisengrein:
 - Contact Shriver about getting food – drink

Next Meeting:

A new meeting schedule will be the first and third Mondays of each month. The next meeting will be on January 16, 2006

This portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM, and the committee went into Executive Session until 9:45 PM.

Submitted by Bob Eisengrein, Secretary