

TOWN CLERK  
PLAINVILLE  
RECEIVED

**Plainville Master Plan Committee  
Minutes of September 20, 2023**

2023 OCT 17 PM 2:21

A meeting of the Plainville Master Plan Committee (MPC) was held on 09/20/2023 in the Plainville Town Hall.

Committee members present:

Rachel Benson (*left at 6:50pm*), Chris Desprez, Jeffrey Johnson, Carol Lerch, Sherri Minch, Charles Smith, David Rabinovitz (*arrived at 6:50pm*)

Members absent/late:

Tom McHugh, Debra Sundin

Staff: Chris Yarworth, Director of Planning & Development

SRPEDD: Phillip Hu  
Maria Jones

The meeting opened at 6:00pm and was recorded.

---

**General Business:**

Phillip Hu of SRPEDD briefly discussed items of concern from the previous deep dive on transportation. Better GATRA access to the mobile home parks and Hilltop Terrace is needed, as well as rapid flashing beacons at some pedestrian crossing areas. GATRA needs an agreement with property owners before they can access private properties. This could reduce access conflict issues by allowing busses to turn around in the serviced sites.

Mr. Hu then presented a 40-page Power Point for a “deep dive” on Open Space and Natural and Cultural Resources. Many Plainville residents have responded in the MPC survey that they appreciate and utilize the existing open space areas, with 30% stating hiking and walking the trails are their favorite activity. Some towns utilize Community Preservation funding to provide the Conservation Commission with annual money to purchase properties without any additional town meeting vote being required. Access to the lakes was discussed, as well as possible public/private partnerships such as those that exist at the Plainville Athletic League fields and at Hawkins Woods. Protecting open space and maintaining a “small town fee” were deemed important by survey respondents. Divergent opinions were expressed about the use of cluster zoning to preserve open space. Historical issues included the benefits, or lack thereof, of adoption of a demolition delay bylaw and consideration about moving the Bliss Chapel to Telford Park. Local businesses need additional support and the new Foxboro/Plainville/Wrentham tourist website is one way this is being implemented. The Power Point presentation is available at <https://srpedd.org/comprehensive-planning/community-master-plans/plainville-master-plan/#workshops>, or at the Planning & Development office. Draft goals and strategies were briefly discussed and will be elaborated on at future meetings.

**Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Desprez to adjourn at 7:30pm. Passed 6-0-0.**

Submitted by:  
Christopher Yarworth  
Director of Planning & Development