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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

January 9, 2025 Virtual Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Attending Officers	Attending Sub-Regional Delegates
Chairperson: Howard N. Drobner, Boylston	North: Otto Lies, Holden
Vice Chair: Robert Hassinger, Grafton	Northeast: Julianne Hirsh, Northborough
Treasurer: Daniel Schur, Westborough	Southeast: Walter Baker, Sutton
Asst. Treasurer: Andrew Coles, Auburn	Southwest: William Trifone, Dudley
Clerk: Timothy H. Wheeler, Berlin	
Attending Delegates & Alternates	
Brandon Avery, North Brookfield	Dave George, Holden
John Boyce, Holden	Meg Haight, Hardwick
Mary Bulso, Blackstone	Mike Merolli, Mendon
Richard Clark, Dudley	Ann Neuburg, Princeton
William Cole, Hardwick	William Pierce, Northborough
Michelle Conlin, Shrewsbury	Purna Rao, Shrewsbury
John Daniel, Southbridge	Rose Russell, Worcester
John Eul, Oxford	Taylor Stedman, Sturbridge
Michael Gagan, Sutton	Matt Urban, Barre
John Gelcich, Westborough	
Guests	
Lee Abdella	Patricia Hobbs
Richard Bisk	Andy Jefferson
William Blasius	Liz Johnson
Eric Breitreutz	Lily Kramer
Don Burn	Jasmin Rivas
Beth Casavant	Leah Whiteman
Thomas Chamberland	Laney Wilder
Craig Della Penna	
Staff	
Janet A. Pierce, Executive Director	Greer Jarvis
Trish Settles, Deputy Dir., RCCP	Sarah O'Brien
Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Dir., Transportation	Robert Raymond
Sandy Amoakohene	Kerrie Salwa
Dominique DuTremble	Anthony Senesi
Matt Franz	Will Talbot
Yahaira Graxirena	Taru
Dara Griswold	Stephanie Toupin
Sherrie Haber	Adam Wriggins
Elena Ion	

Call to Order:

Chairperson Drobner called the Quarterly meeting to order at 7:03p.m. Quorum was established by roll call.

1. Approval of Minutes:

Motion: to accept the Quarterly Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2024.

Moved by Mary Bulso, seconded by Bob Hassinger. **Motion Unanimously Approved** with Abstentions by Urban, Haight, George, Merolli, Pierce, Gagan, Conlin, Stedman

2. FY26 Assessments:

Motion: to accept the FY26 Assessment Schedule.

Moved by Julieanne Hirsh, seconded by John Daniel.

Ms. Pierce stated that the Executive committee and Administration have recommended a 2.5% increase (\$4,770.85) for a Total FY26 Assessment of \$195,664.90. This will be part of the budget presentation in a future meeting. As part of this assessment each community receives 12 hours of planning time. Communities receive additional hours for attending meetings.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

Chairperson Drobner thanked all staff for their work. The amount of work they have done over the past 7-8 years has increased ten-fold.

3. Additional Business:

Zoom Meetings – Chairperson Drobner explained that the law for fully remote meetings will expire in March and that we will continue to watch for changes to MGL. In response to Ms. Bulso’s question about continuing as we are based on our bylaws, Ms. Pierce stated that we must follow Open Meeting Law. She added that we would go back to pre-covid rules that a quorum and the Chairperson must be in person and others would be allowed to be online. Mr. Hassinger stated that he would be surprised if the legislature didn’t continue it. Ms. Settles stated that the legislature is working through different versions of the bill.

Adjournment:

Having completed all business, Chairperson Drobner adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm

Documents:

Draft Minutes November 14, 2024

FY26 Assessment Schedule

Respectfully submitted by Sherrie Haber, CMRPC.