

**Harvard Select Board  
Strategic Planning Session Minutes  
Wednesday, July 6, 2022 9:00am**

***Chair Rich Maiore, Vice Chair Erin McBee, Kara McGuire Minar, Don Ludwig, Charles Oliver***

The Select Board met on the Hildreth House porch at 15 Elm Street to discuss their initiatives/goals for the coming year. Chair Rich Maiore opened the planning session prefacing his desire for fewer goals with greater impact and an opportunity to better understand the key items that need to be addressed.

**Parks and Recreation**

- 1) Strategic plan to address playing fields:
  - a) Phase one – immediate solution- convert Ryan 2 field to a softball field for use by Spring 2023
  - b) Phase two – investigate potential for land swap/conversion of Stone Land/ Old Mill Rd, determine allowable uses under Chapter 97
  - c) Phase three – longer term – hire consultant firm to prepare a comprehensive needs assessment accounting for future trends as well as how to address upkeep/maintenance.

Relevant notes: Determine where/must accommodate 3 diamonds & 2 rectangle fields/Sudbury complex ideal

- 2) Explore a true Park & Rec Department
  - a) Survey communities such as Littleton, Ayer, Bolton to learn how they operate and fund a town recreation department.

**Green Initiatives**

- 1) Utilize the capital fund for at least one solar PV project on a town-owned building
- 2) Meet with HEAC on the status of their investigation into a municipal solar panel field to generate revenues
- 3) Request quarterly reports to the Select Board from the Climate/Energy Committees in an effort to align priorities in a more collaborative way

**Financial**

- 1) Formulate a Real Estate Transfer fee policy; prepare a Home Rule Petition submission if necessary
- 2) Explore CPA increase
- 3) Use ARPA funds to implement form-based code

**Operational changes**

- 1) Investigate the feasibility of a grant writing position
- 2) Review Department of Public Works operation and schedule visit to facility
- 3) Evaluate options for waste removal; Transfer Station versus curbside pick-up cost benefit analysis. Public outreach and feedback in this process is imperative.
- 4) Assess delivery of municipal services in post-Covid world in the workplace

**Miscellaneous**

- 1) Improve SB leadership and collaboration with various boards/committees/commissions

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.