

Devens Educational Advisory Committee

33 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA 01434

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes: January 12, 2023

Members Present: Maureen Babcock, Heather Knowles, Naomi Ahuja, SusanMary Redinger, Meg Delorier, MDFA (ex-officio).

Others Present: Dr. Linda Dwight and Shelly Testa.

Members Not Present: Jesse Lowe and Michele Granger

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.

➤ **OPEN MEETING:**

- The DEAC welcomes the newest member Naomi Ahuja!
- No public present.

➤ **COMMITTEE RE-ORGANIZATION**

- Motion made to nominate Maureen Babcock as Chair, accepted by Heather Knowles, seconded by SusanMary Redinger. Approved
- Motion made to nominate Heather Knowles as Vice Chair, accepted by Naomi Ahuja, seconded by SusanMary Redinger. Approved
- Motion made to nominate Jesse Lowe as Secretary, accepted by Heather Knowles, seconded by SusanMary Redinger. Approved
- Naomi Ahuja will serve as Newsletter Liaison.

➤ **MINUTES**

- Motion to approve December 7, 2022, meeting minutes with corrections made, accepted by Heather Knowles, seconded by Naomi Ahuja. Approved.

➤ **2023 MEETING DATES**

The Committee will continue to hold meetings remotely. The group decided to try having regularly scheduled meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every other month.

- March 14, 2023 @ 7:00pm
- May 9, 2023 @ 7:00pm
- September 12, 2023 @ 7:00pm
- November 14, 2023 @ 7:00pm

➤ **DEAC GUIDELINES REVIEW**

- Moved to next meeting – members asked to review and come up with any questions they may have.

➤ **2023 DEAC GOALS**

The committee reviewed last years goals and updated them. New goals will be included on each agenda.

- Proactively pursue succession planning to mentor new DEAC members for the future
- Communicate to the Devens community through MassDevelopment newsletter and other avenues available (such as DevensConnect)
 - all DEAC meetings to be announced through Friday MassDev Update
 - summary highlights of meetings shared through Friday MassDev Update
 - share relevant education related announcements that would be helpful to Devens residents
- Work to get non-elected residents active in the Devens Education Committee – through invitations, subcommittees, interesting guest speakers
- Pursue joint meeting with Devens Committee (DCAC)
- Update education information on Devens Community website
- Continue communication with MassDevelopment
- Active discussion and participation on Devens disposition and education
- Keep updated on all Devens housing – Emerson Green, Vicksburg Square, and any other residential housing
- Run education survey if determined desirable or needed (in fall thought waiting till Spring 2024)

➤ **UPDATES**

HARVARD

- The Harvard School District reported having positive results on the MCAS testing – reflecting less losses than other MA districts.
- The Harvard School Committee approved a budget with a 5% increase over last year.
- District Vision Statement: We commit to providing a high-quality education centered around dynamic learning and personal wellbeing in a community where everyone can find belonging.
- The Harvard School Committee has the following joint goals with the Superintendent: Goal 1: Future Space Needs Consideration, Goal 2: Fields Improvements, and Goal 3: Negotiate a Three-Year Contract with the Harvard Teachers Association.

MDFA

- Commonwealth Fusion System (CFS) has been issued their occupancy permit.

DEVENS HOUSING

- No current updates.

➤ **NEXT MEETING:** March 14, 2023 @ 7:00pm via Zoom

➤ **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made, accepted by Heather Knowles and seconded by SusanMary Redinger, adjourned at 8:14pm.