

VIRTUAL MEETING

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Karen Van Welden-Herman – Present, Tom Adams – Present, Elaine Clements – Present, John Hess – Present, Melissa Litton – Present, Austin Simko – Present. Absent from the meeting was Town Manager Andrew Flanagan.

Also present were Cara McCarthy-Hutchins and Craig Grant of Communications, Ink and Kathryn Forina, Assistant to the Town Manager.

Review of May 23rd Community Forum:

The Committee reviewed the Community Forum that was held on May 23rd. Mr. Simko noted that the Committee has received a lot of input from the public, but one thing that he found helpful at the forum was a resident comment about color scheme. The resident noted that Andover's colors are blue and gold to represent water and land. Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that one thing she took out of the discussion was that water is very important element in Andover and a significant area that the Committee should consider in design development. Mr. Hess noted that many communities in our area have water, so you must determine what is unique about Andover's water. Mr. Grant pointed out that on Natick's new seal there is water with a well-known bridge over it which gives context to its residents and makes it distinguishable to Natick. He added that the seal doesn't need to be a scene, it could be an amalgamation with parts that then represent the whole.

Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that the historic preservation website has three or four historic images of the Ballardvale Mill with water in different configurations. She noted that this was the top natural landscape choice, and it might be good to look at how the mill sits in the pond. Mr. Hess questioned if the Committee should stay away from the Ballardvale Mill as there is talk of taking down the dam and the image that may no longer exist in the near future. Ms. Van Welden-Herman noted that the industrial history of the town is represented in the mill. Ms. Litton felt that the Committee should stay away from any image that includes a dam because the Pouliot's have expressed that removal of dams is the Cowasuck's number one priority. Mr. Grant questioned if it would be disingenuous to show the Ballardvale Mill with a flowing river.

Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that she likes Mashpee's seal amalgamation but noted that it can't be too cumbersome. Ms. Clements reminded the Committee that the Cowasuck flag is an amalgamation that represents many parts of their culture. The seal can be simple but have elements such as the mill and a representation of water that symbolize both sides of the history. Ms. Litton stated that she liked the idea of incorporating an element of a pine tree which is indigenous and meaningful. Ms. Van Welden-Herman agreed that white pine is plentiful in Andover and the Cowasuck are the "people of the white pine."

Discuss Next Steps for Design Process and Vote on Alternative Designs for Communications Ink to Begin Sketching:

Mr. Grant stated that he would need direction from the Committee on a subject for the iconic building as well as 3 or 4 elements for a landscape amalgamation. Ms. Forina noted that the Stevens Street Dam was recently taking down and there is a photo of the Marland Mill with water flowing

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by it. She also offered that in regard to elements for a landscape amalgamation, many residents wrote into the survey that they would like to see the Holt Hill Solstice stones as a subject.

The Committee discussed the choices for the three subjects for individual seal sketches. Mr. Hess noted that he is intrigued by including a pine tree in reference to the “People of the White Pine.” He added that there may be pine trees on Holt Hill which is named after a founding family. He would however prefer something without the solstice stones. Mr. Simko stated that he would like to see a text only design, one option of an amalgamation and another option that is one subject, for example Old Town Hall.

For the text-only option Ms. McCarthy-Hutchins asked if they would like a mock-up of the original seal. Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that the text currently is very faint, and she doesn’t think it would transfer well. She would like it to be enhanced. Ms. McCarthy-Hutchins stated there is an opportunity to incorporate indigenous elements into it because the seal has a border. Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that there are birds around the border. Mr. Grant stated that they would also look to modernize the text only option. Ms. Van Welden-Herman suggested that Mr. Grant look at the Cowasuck flag for inspiration on incorporating design elements for the text only option that reference the cultural aspects that are important to the indigenous people.

Ms. McCarthy-Hutchins confirmed that the three design choices are the text only, the mill and water which pulls in aspects of the history of Andover and has a timeless quality, and Old Town Hall. Mr. Grant asked for Committee members to provide as many photographs as possible of these locations. He added that if there are specific important features of the images they should be noted.

Mr. Hess asked when Old Town Hall was built. Ms. Van Welden-Herman stated that she believed it was built around 1858. It was the first municipal building built after Andover and North Andover separated. Mr. Hess noted that the library is named Memorial Hall in recognition of the Town’s sacrifices during the Civil War. He acknowledged that Old Town Hall being the first municipal building may make it more iconic. He added that the Indigenous People would not have settled in Andover if not for the water. Ms. Clements questioned how close Rogers Brook comes to Old Town Hall as it is named after an Indigenous Person, and maybe it could be shown running in the background.

Ms. McCarthy-Hutchins stated that they will include a narrative with each sketch. She reminded the Committee that the initial sketches will be black and white. Color will be incorporated at a later date.

Vote on Alternative Designs for Communications Ink to Begin Sketching

On a motion by Mr. Hess seconded by Mr. Adams the Committee voted to move forward with the options discussed to be further enhanced and designed.

Roll Call: Tom Adams – Yes, Elaine Clements – Yes, John Hess – Yes, Melissa Litton – Yes, Austin Simko – Yes, Karen Van Welden-Herman – Yes. Motion passes 6-0.

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The Committee stated that they would send all related images to Communications Ink. by the next week.

Meeting Minutes:

On a motion by Mr. Hess seconded by Mr. Simko the Committee approved the meeting minutes of May 4, 2023.

Roll Call: Tom Adams – Yes, Elaine Clements – Yes, John Hess – Yes, Melissa Litton – Yes, Austin Simko – Yes, Karen Van Welden-Herman – Yes. Motion passes 6-0.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Clements seconded by Mr. Simko the meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Roll Call: Tom Adams – Yes, Elaine Clements – Yes, John Hess – Yes, Melissa Litton – Yes, Austin Simko – Yes, Karen Van Welden-Herman – Yes. Motion passes 6-0.

Documents: Draft Minutes of May 4, 2023