

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Town of Medway

IDEA Committee

August 16, 2022 – 6PM

Sanford Hall – Town Hall

**Committee Members Present:** Dan Kerls, John Foresto, Bill Kingsbury, Brian Sharkey, Susan Dietrich, and Marques Crosby

**Committee Members Absent:** Andrea Crow Henry, Khalid Abdi, and Judith Lane

**Community Members Present:** None

**Call to Order:** At 6:13PM. Mr. Kerls called the meeting to order. He confirmed the in-person attendance of the following individuals: Dan Kerls, John Foresto, Bill Kingsbury, Brian Sharkey, and Susan Dietrich. Ms. Dietrich confirmed the virtual (phone) attendance of Marques Crosby.

**Public Comment:** There were none at this time.

**1. Survey review and updates**

Mr. Sharkey shared that following the committee's sharing of the survey with the schools, there are now 142 responses.

The committee agreed to potentially send the form out again in a few weeks, roughly at the start of the school year, in order to elicit more responses. The committee agreed to resend it in the range of August 25-August 26, 2022. Ms. Dietrich agreed to facilitate this with the schools. Mr. Foresto also offered to coordinate with Ms. Langley to send the survey out to all town boards and committees. Both efforts are in hopes of getting as much engagement with the survey as possible in anticipation of the committee's second community forum. Ms. Dietrich reminded the committee that the community forum will be on October 19, 2022 at 6PM.

**2. Feedback form review**

Mr. Sharkey ensured that all committee members are able to access and review the feedback form analysis. He also suggested that the committee collaborate to interpret the findings and code them in a manner that is accessible to the public at the community forum.

Ms. Dietrich suggested that Mr. Sharkey review all the comments and brainstorm different broad topics including but not limited to school, town, political climate, and areas for future improvement.

**3. Planning for Community Forum and Select Board meeting**

Mr. Crosby and Mr. Foresto considered whether to share the raw data at the forum or to present the data in a fashion that reflects the interpretation of the committee. Ms. Dietrich noted that this is a particular area of concern with the comments, as they are more subjective and open to interpretation; Ms. Dietrich therefore suggested identifying themes within the comments to share with the public, as the committee did for the first community forum. Ms. Dietrich also noted the importance of following a similar process as other committees who sought community feedback,

such as the Master Plan Committee. Mr. Sharkey also noted that in sharing raw data, it eliminates the potential for consumers of the data to be skeptical of the findings.

The committee agreed to meet on September 22, 2022 to review the survey data.

Mr. Kingsbury also noted that he and Mr. Crosby plan to meet to discuss the online responses that the committee has received and identify trends of this data.

Ms. Dietrich asked the committee if they anticipate they will feel prepared to present their findings to the Select Board in November 2022. The committee felt that January 2023 would be more reasonable and agreed to modify their timeline accordingly.

Mr. Crosby inquired as to what format the committee plans to present their findings at the community forum. Mr. Foresto suggested a PowerPoint.

Ms. Dietrich noted that the forum is intended to be a sharing of research methods and findings, whereas the subsequent suggestions for the Select Board are tangible recommendations based on that data.

The committee agreed to also meet on October 4, 2022 at 6PM in anticipation of the community forum.

Mr. Kerls agreed to coordinate with Ms. Potter for the upcoming times and spaces for the committee's aforementioned meetings and forums.

#### **4. Other Business**

Mr. Crosby reminded the committee to review the Master Plan Committee's current work.

**Motion to Adjourn:** At 6:42PM , Mr. Foresto offered a motion to adjourn. Ms. Dietrich seconded this motion which passed unanimously. Kerls: aye, Foresto: aye, Kingsbury: aye, Sharkey: aye, Dietrich: aye, Crosby: aye. VOTE: 6-0.