

**Master Plan 2023
Open Space and Recreation, and Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources
Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes**

October 24, 2023, 7:10 PM

Room 205

355 East Central Street

This meeting was available to be attended in person by all citizens. The meeting was also live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. Recordings have been made available on Franklin TV's "Franklin Town Hall TV" YouTube channel. Additionally, citizens were able to participate remotely via phone and Zoom.

1. Introductions -

Committee Members in Attendance: Chair Meghann Hagen, Member Melanie Hamblen, Member Glenn Jones

Committee Members Absent: Member Rick Power

Others in Attendance via Zoom: Breeka Li Goodlander & Derek Adams

Meeting called to order by Chair at 7:10 pm

2. Open Space and Recreation / TreeCity USA status & Recognition

Derek Adams stated Franklin has received recognition for 2022 and needs to reapply annually for this status. The four pillars to receive recognition are maintaining a tree department, having a tree ordinance, spending \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrating Arbor Day. Derek is working on this year's application and expects Franklin to receive this recognition. Breeka Li Goodlander asked if tree planting at DelCorte and the Earth Day in Franklin would count. Derek affirmed and stated that Franklin does a great job with tree planting and cleanup.

Breeka Li Goodlander commented on diminishing heat islands by planting shade trees in E J population areas. Members discussed multiple tree planting in the same area to maximize tree canopy.

3. Review of 2013 Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources Goals & Objectives

Vicky Earls, Head of Reference for the Franklin Public Library joined the conversation and the members discussed the need to inventory community resources and other structures built before 1930 in order to move forward to protect and preserve them. Chair Meghann Hagen noted the need for a list of prioritized projects. Red Brick Schoolhouse ribbon cutting was noted. Next plan is for the Historical Museum cupola. Vicky Earls spoke of a catalog system being proposed for all manuscripts and historical items and buildings in town which would be web based to provide online access. This project is in the development stage and no funding has been requested or allocated yet.

The members also discussed National Historical Districts and the creation of local historic districts to provide protection and maintain historical preservation. Vicky discussed the steps needed to place a property on the national registry and provided a list of 400+ Historical properties / areas.

Breeka spoke of identifying legacy trees on public and private property. Members discussed scenic road designation, which hasn't limited growth or preservation as initially intended.

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Master Plan Subcommittee next meeting - TBA

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn Meeting -

Chair motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Member Hamblen,

Vote 3-0, Meeting adjourned.