

**Connecting Community Initiative Committee (CCI)**  
**Joint Meeting with Selectboard**  
**June 29th, 2023 6:30 pm**

“Certain meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access and, where required, public participation provided, in accordance with House Bill Number 58 of the 193<sup>rd</sup> General Court, which extended the Governor’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20, until March 31, 2025.

**REVISED AGENDA**

**Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136658576?pwd=Q1BtT0NBTKFPszJzdGNhaHN4Wmozdz09>

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: musicHeals

**Phone:**

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 413 665 8576

Passcode: 6601007780

**Agenda**

- 6:30 - Call to order  
Meeting Guidelines: speak one-at-a-time: follow Deerfield Code of Conduct (respectful, considerate, courteous): concise, non-repetitive

- Members present:

- Jim Cambias
- ~~Julie Chalfant~~
- Lili Dwight
- Tim Hilchey
- Kate Lawless
- ~~Andrea Leibson~~
- ~~Denise Mason~~
- ~~Trevor McDaniell~~
- Annie Curtis
- ~~Carolyn Ness~~
- John Paciorek
- MA Swedlund
- ~~Analee Wulfkuhle~~

Guests:

- 6:35: Luke and Jenny from VHB - update on Campus Plan
  - Approve minutes from: May 25, 2023
  - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yZ3yxJFNvDL8RyLptAPeKPiJ\\_msarHLNUWn8jJ4JVqs/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yZ3yxJFNvDL8RyLptAPeKPiJ_msarHLNUWn8jJ4JVqs/edit)
  - Committee updates report
- Call to order: 6:37 PM

Complete Neighborhoods Report (Jennifer and Luke): Slide presentation posted on website.

NOTE: this is NOT the “final rendering phase.” Tonight is an opportunity to give feedback.

- One more public meeting in September, but otherwise all public engagement is complete.
- Summer’s work will be on the site plan.
- Stakeholder summaries (see presentation): no unexpected priorities were voiced.
- Single family homes are preferred but not practical for the size/vision of this project

- Intergenerational housing is requested; do we want to change our senior housing vision to incorporate this? NOTE: public subsidies are limited with intergenerational housing
- Draft vision statement and draft goals (more specific than the vision statement): we need to study these and edit as needed
- Wetlands and buffer zones present considerable barriers to siting.
- What are our creative options/pros/cons for relocating the ball field?
- Conservation Commission review of wetlands and buffer zones is essential, asap!
- Whether or not we want to move forward with the St. \_\_\_\_\_ (church and rectory) property will be crucial as we consider various site possibilities.
- Very broad cost estimates will be included in VHB's site scenarios.
- VHB will also consider more than 35-40 units, limited to four stories.
- Suggestion: talk with Sanderson Place residents for their critique of the units and complex.
- Are the (approximate) library renderings accurate?
- Option of moving the police station to another site probably is not feasible at this time.
- Watershed plan for Bloody Brook will be important to have asap.

Minutes: deferred

#### Reports:

##### Senior Housing:

- Wetlands delineation done- need to bring to Conservation Commission.
  - Invasive species inventory completed and sent to Carolyn for Bloody Brook work
  - Next steps: get next contract for work that includes borings for geothermal and possible sitings for senior housing
  - Still no appraisal yet on abutting property.
  - Planning: FRCOG is working with Planning Board to update our zoning bylaws (Ch. 179)
  - T-Mobile grant for 1821 Building has been submitted.
  - Ed Markey states \$3M for us have been included in the Federal budget
  - Library Building Committee is moving forward well
  - Planning & Econ. Development recruitment: report next meeting
  - Open Space: committee met with Eaglebrook School to explore creating a walking trail
  - Bloody Brook project has received its grant!
  - Pollinator grant via FRCOG has been received.
- Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before
  - Next meeting: Tuesday, August 8, 6:30 PM
  - Adjourn at 8:20 PM

*The Connecting Community Initiative supports the Deerfield Select Board's anti-hate statement of November 11, 2022. We unequivocally condemn racism, discrimination and hate in all its forms, and we commit to work diligently to ensure that our town is welcoming and safe for everyone. We recognize our responsibility to understand and address all forms of inequality. We encourage diversity of voices and representation on all Deerfield town boards and committees. We pledge to help foster a community where all individuals can live happily, free of fear and with equal access to opportunities, regardless of age, race, religion, ethnic background, national origin, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation.*