

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Bryan Memorial Town Hall
Post Office Box 383
Washington Depot, Connecticut 06794
Planning Commission Regular Meeting
MINUTES
January 3, 2024

7:30 P.M. – Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Hileman, D. Rimsky, J. Averill, C Matteo

MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Gager,

ALTERNATES PRESENT: D. Varnish

ALTERNATES ABSENT: S. Mongar

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Gorra

PUBLIC PRESENT: Brian Hagenbuch (Steep Rock Association)

Chair Hileman called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

Seated for this meeting is Chair Hileman, D. Rimsky, and J. Averill, D. Varnish, C. Matteo

Consideration of the Minutes – December 6, 2023:

MOTION: To approve the December 6, 2023 Washington Planning Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted, D. Rimsky made the Motion and J. Averill seconded, approved 5-0 vote.

New Applications:

No new applications.

Pending Applications:

No pending applications

Committee Reports/Updates:

Sustainability:

C. Matteo updated committee members on several items that were discussed in the last Sustainability Committee meeting. The items discussed were wake boating (still waiting for study to be concluded), LISD (manual still out to bid), salt applications on the town roadways, as well as composting and the possibility of putting in speed bumps/speed shells in the areas of concern. Also mentioned was the need to spend down \$5000.00 for public education/speakers and the placement of additional EV charging stations in New Preston and Marble Dale along with building to “net zero” especially in regards to the ambulance building.

Economic Development Committee:

M. Gorra gave an update on the December meeting of EDC which recapped the huge success of Holiday in the Depot. The businesses in town were really happy as people were shopping and visiting the stores and galleries. The committee was approached by an individual interested in a town restaurant week. They committee discussed possibly tying this in with the arts. Last topics that were mentioned was the withdrawal of the Daycare Project due to a change of the Region 12 Superintendent and, with the budget season approaching, the EDC has plans to look into the sidewalk work that needs addressing in town.

Referral from Washington Zoning Commission – Revision to Zoning Regulations

Chair Hileman presented the Referral of Proposed Revisions to Zoning Regulations for the committee's approval prior to submitting to the Zoning Commission. A discussion ensued with committee member D. Rimsky suggesting, because of the itemization below 13.12 the word "However" be inserted for more emphasis in the start of the 2nd sentence of paragraph two as well as adding the wording "that raises significant concerns" in the last sentence of subsection 13.12.1

MOTION: To approve the referral regarding Washington Zoning Commission's proposed revisions to section 13.12 – Multifamily Housing, with edits recommended by the Washington Planning Commission, by C. Matteo seconded by D. Rimsky, approved unanimously.

Continued Discussion – 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development:

Chair Hileman presented the first draft of the 2024 of Plan Conservation and Development to the committee. The Action Agenda parts of the plan as well as the Appendix will be determined/completed at a later date. The commission has decided that, although it is still work in progress, to post the draft minus the Appendix to the Planning Commission site.

Communications:

No Communications for this meeting.

Administrative Business:

Election of Officers

Motion: To elect Wayne Hileman as Chair of the Washington Planning Commission, by C. Matteo, seconded by J. Averill approved 5-0 vote.

Motion: To elect Dimitri Rimsky as vice Chair of the Washington Planning Commission, by Chair Hileman, seconded by C. Matteo, approved 5-0 vote.

Adjourn:

MOTION: To adjourn the January 3, 2024 Washington Planning Commission Regular Meeting at 9:06 pm by Chair Hileman, seconded by D. Rimsky, approved unanimously 5-0 vote.

Recording can be found here:

https://townofwashingtoncc-my.sharepoint.com/:v/g/personal/btingley_washingtonet_org/EcbHsVm-CCdIkZTHACZfH-IB6HxKJ3m4wBoYmxvV5pUSRg?e=FWNG8B

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Tingley

Land Use Clerk

January 9, 2024

***Minutes filed, subject to approval**