

February 11, 2008

Present: Liddy Adams, Wayne Hileman, Jean Suddaby, Sue Werkhoven

Guests: None

Visitors: Chris Charles, Stephen Kiss

Call to Order

Chairman Wayne Hileman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of January 14, 2008

Jean Suddaby moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Sue Werkhoven seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Communications

Wayne Hileman informed the members that the Zoning Commission received the Housing Commission's letter in support of the redesigned Myfield Project. This letter along with a letter from the Washington Housing Trust and several other letters all in support of the project were read at the Zoning Commission's meeting. The Zoning Commission approved the Myfield project, after adding a few minor provisions.

Liddy Adams felt it was important for the Housing Commission to give input on projects such as the Myfield Project when these related to the Housing Commission's goals. This input could be included in the Housing Commission minutes and/or through written letters.

Proposed Revision of Zoning Regulations re: Accessory Apartments

Wayne Hileman reported that the Zoning Commission has pushed back the accessory apartment issue to their March meeting. This should give the Housing Commission time to craft a written response, since this issue is directly within the Housing Commission's field of interest. Wayne Hileman will develop a draft on this matter for the members to peruse.

Proposed Committee to explore the future use of the WPS

Wayne Hileman said he was informed by First Selectman Mark Lyon that the Selectmen have decided to put together a committee to explore the future use of the Washington Primary School in case it would no longer have its current use. The Selectmen would like a representative from each of the various commissions. Wayne Hileman asked if any member was interested in volunteering. Liddy Adams offered to represent the Housing Commission. She saw the purpose of the WPS Committee as an ad hoc group that would have some recommendations ready to answer 'what if' questions.

Inclusion of Items Not on the Agenda

Sue Werkhoven gave an update on the Titus Road Committee's January 31st meeting. Ideas and suggestions were brainstormed regarding this area's future uses. Perk tests were recommended to determine the feasibility of a housing component. Bids were being taken for the removal of the old building. There seemed to be broad agreement that an area presently used for parking should remain with some possible reconfigurations. Other ideas included a dog park area, an indoor tennis court, and a linkage to the greenway trail. Also, it was suggested that dry hydrants be installed so fire trucks wouldn't have to back down to the river. The thinking seemed to be toward a mixed use scenario for this area. The Titus Road Committee will not meet again until spring.

Chris Charles felt that this area should be part of a broader overview where soil types and flood plain designations be determined for the entire village area as part of the Depot Study.

Housing Commission Budget

Wayne Hileman informed members that, since the town budget was voted on in May, the Housing Commission needed to get their official budget request done. It was suggested they use last year's

request form as a template.

Long Range Housing Plan

In gathering Fire Department data for the long range housing plan, Wayne Hileman reported on a discussion he had with the Fire Chief which included the issue of available housing for fire department members.

Wayne Hileman suggested using the categories given in the Housing Section of the Plan of Conservation and Development as a framework for the data they collected.

Adjournment

Liddy Adams moved to adjourn the meeting. Sue Werkhoven seconded the motion which was carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 10, at 5:00 p.m. in the Land Use Room, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Patte Doran