

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Bryan Memorial Town Hall
Post Office Box 383
Washington Depot, Connecticut 06794
Planning Commission Regular Meeting
MINUTES
June 7, 2023

7:30 P.M. – Hybrid Meeting

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Gager

ALTERNATES PRESENT: J. Averill, D. Varnish

ALTERNATES ABSENT: S. Mongar

STAFF PRESENT: T. Rill, S. White, M. Gorra

PUBLIC PRESENT: A. Jamieson (Voices)

Chair Hileman called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

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

Consideration of the Minutes – May 3, 2023:

MOTION: To approve the May 3, 2023 Washington Planning Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted, by C. Matteo, seconded by D. Rimsky, approved 5-0 vote.

Motion to Include Items Not on the Agenda:

No items to add to the Agenda

New Applications:

No new applications.

Pending Applications:

No pending applications

Committee Reports/Updates:

Sustainability:

C. Matteo shared that Chair Hileman had attended the last Sustainability meeting and felt that an informational conversation had taken place. She added that the Committee is currently working on the idling campaign, Low Impact Development and Invasive Species. She updated that the Wake Board Ordinance on Lake Waramaug has been discussed with the Board of Selectmen in all three towns

(Washington, Warren and Kent), and has received positive feedback. Currently, DEEP is reviewing the language of the ordinance and eventually there will be an informational meeting for the town.

Economic Development Committee:

M. Gorra stated that the website and social media posts have been doing well. The engagement rate is high and is a great resource for everything Washington.

Continued Discussion – 2023 Plan of Conservation and Development:

Recap of 5/25 Meeting with Heads of Schools:

Last month, a meeting was held and the Heads of all five Washington schools, (Region 12, Frederick Gunn School, Rumsey Hall, Devereux Glenhome, and Washington Montessori), discussed issues they feel impacts their schools in Washington. The number one issue the schools are facing is housing for their staff. The Commission discussed ways the town could possibly assist the schools with this issue. S. White suggested that each school develop a long-term plan adding that the schools could approach the Zoning Commission regarding the regulations and changes that could be made to support housing.

Other issues discussed included infrastructure on properties belonging to the schools. There is an interest in solar energy at each school, however, lot coverage is an issue. The Commission is eager to support the schools and hope to meet with them again in the future.

Deep Dive: Community Facilities:

The Commission discussed how micro grids could be a positive step for the town, considering the number of power outages we have seen over the past several years. The process to accomplish this is fairly long, but it is legal to do.

The Commission also discussed the cost for the maintenance of dirt roads in comparison to paved roads. The Commission would also like to research permeable materials for parking lots/areas.

Chair Hileman stated that at the July meeting the Zoning chapter of the POCD will be the topic discussion.

Communications:

No Communications for this meeting.

Administrative Business:

No Administrative Business for this meeting.

Adjourn:

MOTION: To adjourn the June 7, 2023 Washington Planning Commission Regular Meeting at pm by , seconded by , approved 5-0 vote.

Meeting Recording can be found here:

https://townofwashingtoncc-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/trill_washingtonct_org/Ef-DRYIdj75MpW5oHNS7osYBQeh-quIPQ-Gelxk8j5-0w?e=NNI3CH

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Rill

Land Use Clerk

June 8, 2023

***Minutes filed, subject to approval**