

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Bryan Memorial Town Hall
Post Office Box 383
Washington Depot, Connecticut 06794
PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

November 3, 2021

7:30 P.M. – Meeting Via Zoom Conference and In Person

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Hileman, Ms. Matteo, Mr. Rimsky, Ms. Gager

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mr. Mongar, Ms. Averill

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. White, Ms. Haverstock, Ms. Gorra, Ms. Rill

PUBLIC PRESENT: Mr. Sherr, Ms. Whiting, Mr. Charles, Ms. Zukauskas (Press – Voices Newspaper)

Chairman Hileman called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

He seated himself, Mr. Rimsky, Ms. Matteo, Ms. Gager and Mr. Mongar

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the October 6, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted, by Mr. Rimsky, seconded by Ms. Matteo, passed unanimously.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

No New Applications

PENDING APPLICATIONS:

No Pending Applications.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Sustainability Committee:

Ms. Matteo reported that she had attended a Washington Environmental Council meeting and that they would be reviewing the Plan of Conservation and Development.

She added that the Sustainability Committee had received Bronze Status from SustainableCT and were hoping to reach silver status soon.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Ms. Gorra stated that she had checked in with local businesses and that the biggest issues they were facing currently were with labor itself – finding people to hire for the positions they had available, as well as supply issues.

Ms. Gorra stated that the Committee was looking into designing a “welcome kiosk” located somewhere in the Depot, possibly next to Bryan Memorial Town Hall that would include a watering station, benches or tables.

Ms. Whiting suggested looking into a solar-powered phone-charging station.

Mr. Rimski questioned if there were any further discussions regarding walkways wrapping around Titus Road. Ms. Gorra confirmed that there had been a few meetings regarding the matter, and a concept plan was available on the Town Website.

The Titus Concept Plan can be found here:

[Titus Concept Plan | Washington CT](#)

CONTINUED DISCUSSION – 2023 PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

Updates on Outreach to Community Stakeholders:

Chairman Hileman stated that he has yet to meet with the Board of Finance, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Zoning Commission, but he hoped to meet with them soon.

Ms. Matteo suggested meeting every five years to discuss the Plan. The Commission discussed and agreed upon midcourse reporting with other Commissions to check-in with the status of plan implementation.

Mr. Rimsky stated he had several conversations with community members with concerns over the amount of affordable housing.

Update on 2020 Census Data:

Chairman Hileman stated that he had reached out to the Census Bureau for explanation regarding the number of housing units in town. He discovered that the Census Bureau used a technical term called “differential privacy” – which prohibits database algorithms, blocks potential data hackers, and protects the privacy of those participating in the Census.

COMMUNICATIONS:

There are no Communications for this evening’s meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Continued Review of the Land Use Maps from HVA:

Chairman Hileman and Ms. White agreed that the deadline for any comments, suggestions or corrections will be December 31, 2021.

Alternate Commission Member:

The Commission welcomed Ms. Whiting who is interested in the Alternate seat. Chairman Hileman stated there is a gentleman that he has met with whom is also interested.

Approval of the 2022 Planning Commission Meeting Calendar:

MOTION: To approve the Washington Planning Commission 2022 Meeting Calendar as submitted, by Ms. Matteo, seconded by Mr. Rimsky, passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the November 3, 2021 Washington Planning Commission Meeting at 8:17pm, by Mr. Rimsky, seconded by Mr. Mongar, passed unanimously.

A recording of this meeting can be found here:

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!AhqOocBm3HM3iTM3z0jlp-D1tgw3?e=VsNJ7I>

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Rill

Land Use Clerk

November 4, 2021

*Minutes are subject to Approval.