TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Bryan Memorial Town Hall

Post Office Box 383

Washington Depot, Connecticut 06794

Planning Commission Regular Meeting

**MINUTES**

October 7, 2020

7:30 P.M. – Meeting via Zoom

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**  Chairman Hileman, Ms. Matteo, Mr. Rimsky, Mr. Mongar

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ms. Gager, Mr. Carey

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ms. White, Ms. Rill

**PUBLIC PRESENT**: Mr. Charles, Ms. Gorra, Other Members of the Public

Chairman Hileman called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.

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

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES:**

**MOTION: To accept the September 2, 2020 Washington Planning Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted. By Mr. Rimsky, seconded by Ms. Matteo, passed 4-0 vote.**

**PENDING APPLICATIONS:**

No Pending Applications.

**NEW APPLICATIONS:**

There are no New Applications.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Economic Development Committee:

Ms. Gorra updated the Commission by stating that she had asked First Selectman Brinton to craft a letter welcoming new home owners in Washington, and she happily reported that she would be mailing 54 letters later this week, and planned on doing more for the second half of 2020 in the future.

Ms. Gorra went on to state that a group in town named “NOW” has put out a survey that 156 Region 12 families have answered. The survey responses were an excellent resource for gathering information such as; desired home pricing when purchasing in the area, what drew them to Washington, what kind of services they were looking for, etc.

Chairman Hileman announced that Wi-Fi in the Depot was on and working.

**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE:**

Ms. Gorra stated that she had met with Sustainability Committee member, Mr. Hubelbank, that there was not a Chairman as of yet. Ms. Matteo stated that she had met with Mr. Charles a few times and received an email from Mr. Hubelbank. They were hoping to meet soon via Zoom.

**POCD – 5-YEAR REVISIONS:**

Chairman Hileman stated that the Zoning Commission was holding a Special Meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:30pm and that Section 3.2 – Zoning District Boundaries, and extending the waiver to Washington Depot and Woodville, would be discussed.

**RE-OPENING COMMITTEE:**

Mr. Rimsky stated that the next meeting would be held on October 16, 2020. They were looking forward to seeing how the schools were doing so far and expected updates from the State on guidelines for re-opening in the next phase. He went on to explain that the Committee had been involved with First Selectman Brinton’s letter welcoming new families to town in hopes of establishing communication with them. Mr. Rimsky stated that the Committee was hoping to have handouts of important services provided in town at the counters of local businesses, to establish contact with new residents.

Mr. Rimsky stated that he had hoped Holiday in the Depot could be held this year in a safe fashion, explaining that this would be a great opportunity for new residents to see and meet other families and residents in town. Ms. Gorra stated that Holiday in the Depot was going to be held – as a strictly outdoor event this year, with the goal of holding a safe, but festive, event for all.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN UPDATE:**

Chairman Hileman informed the Planning Commission that currently the Housing Commission will be putting together an Affordable Housing Plan with the help of Jocelyn Ayer from the Northwest Council of Governments. The next meeting will be held on October 19, 2020 at 5:30pm. There was a Task Team formed that will be meeting via the Housing Commission. Ms. Gorra explained that she had been asked to head the task team, and was compiling information that would be helpful. She was excited to announce that Janet Hill and Dean Sarjeant would also be joining the Task Team.

Ms. Gorra stated that there would more than likely need to be some action taken by the Zoning Commission as far as the Regulations go and what is and is not allowed, but the Commission is still in the exploratory phase of the plan.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

There were no Communications for this evenings meeting.

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

There was no Administrative Business for this evenings meeting.

**MOTION: To adjourn the October 7, 2020 Washington Planning Commission Meeting at 8:36pm. By Ms. Matteo, seconded by Mr. Rimsky, passed 4-0 vote.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Rill

Land Use Clerk

October 13, 2020

\*All documents on file in the Land Use Office

\*\*Minutes subject to approval

\*\*\*A recording of this meeting is available upon request