

## Worcester Planning Commission

### MINUTES January 20, 2021

**Attending via ZOOM:** Kate Spring, Meredith Crandall, Toni Kaeding

#### **Welcome & Housekeeping**

The Minutes of 12.9.20 and 12.30.20 were reviewed, moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

#### **REVIEW of Part 8 – Economy**

Group reviewed Part 9 in new format. Discussion included the addition of 2 new goals, 2 new charts, the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, and suggestions for Commercial Development section. Also 2 errors noted on EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY CHART.

ACTION: Toni to make recommended modifications and corrections. Framework to be continued in subsequent chapters.

#### **REVIEW of Part 6 – Energy**

Brief discussion on approach to this section triggered by public comments, including those of Avram Patt. Tone of text may need some work to acknowledge the dual (conflicting?) priorities of support for re-newable energy and trepidation toward industry. Toni would like to seek more expert support in writing of this section. Group discussed seeking the “enhanced designation” outlined in Act 174 and decided that the Town Plan should include the foundational information for that designation but that official approval should be sought after the current Plan is complete.

ACTION: Toni to format Part 6 for review at next meeting. Will specify intentions to seek Act 174 enhanced designation in Plan. Will also research new energy charts from CVRPC and seek local expert support.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

Group reviewed proposed new **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Statement** for Town Plan. Some wordsmithing done.

ACTION: Toni to send Statement to Justin for his input and add to Plan.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm**

**Next meeting:** TBD in February via ZOOM

Respectfully,  
Toni Kaeding