

Worcester Planning Commission
MINUTES
March 16, 2023, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Attending: Chani Waterhouse, Will Baker, Bill Arrand, Toni Kaeding

Housekeeping

- Chani called the meeting to order at 5:31pm and welcomed the group with a roundtable share of favorite stories from recent storm events.
- No agenda revisions.
- Minutes of February 23, 2023 were duly submitted, reviewed and unanimously approved.

Public Comments

At the request of citizen Freedom Mauran, Chani shared brochure warning the risks of public surveillance cameras. Citizen input appreciated, no further action to be taken at this time.

Updates

- **Town Plan Approval** – Group offered final comments on approved Town Plan. Photos appreciated. Discussion arose around the median house price of \$185,000 for Worcester. **ACTION:** Toni to confirm number with HousingData.org, powered by Vermont Housing Finance Agency.
- **Village Center Designation** – Will reported progress on quest for Village Center Designation. Hopeful for review/approval by Agency of Commerce and Community Development Board meeting on May 22. Discussion ensued re: the slight adjustment of Village Center boundaries to include the following minor modifications prior to submission:
 1. Inclusion of Ladd Field
 2. Shift Village Center map very slightly west in accordance with topography and Town features, correcting possible prior error. This includes moving border from center of river to western riverbank.
 3. Include hydro-plant area
 4. Expand included area behind school slightly to natural border.

Will also noted helpful website: Vermont Center for Geographic Info, VCGI@vt.gov

ACTION: Chani to check with Town Clerk on possibility of public easement for “boat-in” area on Walker property, east riverbank of North Branch.

Looking Ahead: Enhanced Energy Plan (Act 174)

Group agreed to continue pursuit of Enhanced Energy Plan as provided by Act 174 and to enlist guidance from CVRPC, specifically Sam Lash, in the process.

Planning Commission Membership

ACTION: Chani to create FPF post inviting interested citizens to explore a seat on Planning Commission.

Matters Arising: none

Adjournment

Toni moved to adjourn, Will seconded, unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

NEXT MEETING will be held April 20 at 5:30pm on zoom.