

Worcester Planning Commission
MINUTES
April 25, 2023, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

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

Housekeeping

- Chani called the meeting to order at 5:32pm and welcomed the group with a roundtable share of “favorite simple pleasures of spring”.
- Agenda Revision - Chani moved to amend agenda to include discussion of bike and pedestrian grant opportunity. Toni seconded, unanimous
- Minutes of March 16, 2023 were duly submitted, reviewed and unanimously approved. Review of ACTIONS included in 3/16/23 Minutes:
 - Toni confirmed median cost of house in Worcester with housingdata.com at \$185,000.
 - Chani reported that Town records revealed no easement on east bank of North Branch of the Winooski (Walker property) where boats occasionally launch.

Public Comments

Chani reported that Freedom Mauran inquired about Town movement on requested ordinance restricting surveillance cameras in the Village. Chani thanked Freedom for raising topic but reiterated Planning Commission’s earlier position that no action was planned at this time.

Kyle Devitt contacted Toni seeking ideas that could provide baseline funding for community gatherings at The Landing this summer. Grant funding briefly discussed and Toni promised to keep an eye out for potential sponsors/funding opps.

Updates

- **Village Center Designation** – Will reported that proposal going well...still shooting for May 1 review. One map still needed but unable to reach map resource at CVRPC to troubleshoot. ACTION: Will to follow-up with CVRPC
- **Enhanced Energy Plan (Act 174)** – Chani met with Selectboard to discuss energy issues. Selectboard authorized Planning Commission to select Energy Task force. Will defer process conversations til May. Plans to begin work in June.
- **Planning Commission Membership** – Chani reviewed Bylaws which recommend staggered terms of 1, 2, and 3 years. Group agreed to simplify through use of staggered 3 year terms only. Commissioner renewal dates:
 - Chani as Chair 2025
 - Will as Vice Chair 2024
 - Toni as Clerk 2024
 - Bill as Commissioner/CVRPC Liaison 2026

Matters Arising

Transportation Grant Opp - Group discussed and agreed to consider application for transportation grant that would fund a scoping study for installation of bike lanes and sidewalks. ACTION: Chani to pursue.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm

NEXT MEETING will be held May 23, 2023 at 5:30pm via zoom and will include the election of Officers.

