

Worcester Planning Commission
MINUTES
January 18, 5:30 p.m.
via ZOOM

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

Housekeeping

- Chani called the meeting to order at 5:36pm
- No revisions to the agenda.
- Minutes of 11.14.23 were duly approved

Public Comment

Chani reported that Bo Carey had contacted her about concerns re: ANR's proposed plan for the Worcester Range Management Unit. He encouraged Town officials to take a stand on this document. (see below)

UPDATE: Energy Task Force

Chani reported steady progress from the Task Force and estimated a 1 year time frame for completion.

ACTION: Chani to keep Selectboard involved.

UPDATE: Village Center Designation

Chani noted some interest/confusion from citizens about access/benefit. Will advised that, for the most part, access was limited to small business owners and historical buildings including the Worcester Historic Society. Tax credits were likely benefit. **ACTION:** Chani to write letter of clarification. (Apologies.....my notes are scant on this action.)

UPDATE: ANR Worcester Range Management Unit Plan

Public meetings seeking public input were sponsored by ANR in Worcester on Dec 13 and Stowe on Dec 19. Group discussed significant citizen dismay expressed at the limited avenues offered for citizen input. PC discussed possibility of a formal response. No action taken at this time. Deadline for public comments: Feb 2, 2024.

UPDATE: Town Plan Action Items and Outreach

Group reviewed need for formal annual meeting with Selectboard. In light of current collaboration between SB and PC on several topics, it was agreed that no additional meeting was needed at this time. Group also agreed that there was no reason to schedule a meeting with the Recreation Committee or CV Fiber at this time.

Slate of Officers: Planning Commission 2024

Chani proposed a continuing slate of officers for 2024: Chani – Chair, Will – Vice Chair, Toni – Clerk, Bill – Liaison to CVRPC. All nominees expressed willingness to continue in their role. Group approved proposed slate unanimously.

Expiration date of current Planning Commission members:

Chani 2025

Will 2024

Toni 2024

Bill 2026

All terms are staggered 3 year terms that expire in December.

Group agreed to treat CVRPC Liaison as a "rolling" appointment. Meeting agendas will include a standing update from Bill each month.

Recruitment of new members for the Planning Commission

No response from prior Front Porch Forum posting. ACTION: Chani requested that each Commissioner approach have membership conversation with minimum of one potential candidate prior to next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned a 6:37pm.

NEXT MEETING: Feb 15 at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Kaeding