

WATERBURY PLANNING COMMISSION

Approved Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2017

Planning Commission: Chair: Ken Belliveau, Sarah McShane, Mary Koen, Becca Washburn

Staff: Steve Lotspeich, Community Planner; Patti Spence, Secretary

Public: Zoe Gordon, Economic Development Director, Revitalizing Waterbury; Jeff Larkin, Chair, Waterbury Area Development Committee.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. at the Municipal Center at 28 N. Main Street.

AGENDA REVIEW AND MODIFICATIONS

There were no changes made to the agenda.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no members of the public at the meeting to provide comments.

REVIEW DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

Zoe Gordon, the Economic Development Director, and Jeff Larkin, the Chair of the Waterbury Area Development Committee, presented the latest draft of the Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP). Zoe stated that she made the requested changes on page 8. Also on page 11 the wording was changed to “high rental costs ...” The word “must” was taken out of the document with one exception that will be corrected.

Part IV, section 4.2 the Waterbury Village section was rewritten, with graphics added. In section 4.3 a paragraph was added (page 22).

On page 34, Transportation projects, Barb Farr gave some input which was incorporated.

Becca suggested changes to page 6 to change the phrase “major landowners” to something else, perhaps “significant commercial properties”. She also suggested a recreation group be given more input opportunity as a stakeholder, as well as other non-profit groups, such as Waterbury LEAP.

The Planning Commission members discussed the conflict between the Municipal Plan and the Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) regarding development of the Route 2 and Route 100 corridors. Zoe and Jeff stated that the idea is to create conversation on this topic and to use this forum to identify the potential or existing conflicts in growth philosophy. The Planning Commission did not want to endorse a plan that it saw as being in conflict with the Municipal Plan. The Planning Commission provided their input however they decided not to formally endorse the Plan. WADC plans to ask the elected officials to formally adopt the EDSP.

UPDATE ON LOCAL ENERGY PLANNING PROJECT

Discussed the project and looked online at the community dashboard and energy atlas.

Municipalities are being asked to contribute by identifying areas in their communities that have

specific constraints to identify. Steve showed how the site works and what information can be searched for.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Zoning Administrator's report for February 2017 was presented.

A downtown transportation grant has been applied for to pay for the elements of the upcoming Main St. Reconstruction project that won't be covered under the project funding through VTrans. The grant application includes funding for wayfinding signage and period street lights for Stowe St.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Sarah McShane moved and Mary Koen seconded the motion to approve the Planning Commission minutes for February 27, 2017 with the changes specified.

VOTE: Approved 4-0

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Spence
Secretary

