

Holliston Planning Board Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2016

In Attendance: Chairman Geoffrey Zeamer, Warren Chamberlain, Nikki Borman, Taro Matsuno and David Thorn.

Call to Order: The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 105 of the Town Hall, 703 Washington Street.

General Business:

1. Planning Advisory Board Discussion

Present along with the Planning Board members were members Inge Daniels and Karen Langton. Also present were Jon Varrell of 928 Washington Street and Tom Chipman of 116 Stagecoach Road. The Chairman provided a summary of meeting the night before with the Board of Selectmen with regard to the Corridor Plan. Some of the general comments from the public were related to the members. He also reported that there is a meeting with Rep. Dykema, Board of Selectmen Chairman Jay Marsden and Town Administrator Jeff Ritter on Friday afternoon.

There was some discussion of utilizing an Extra Work Authorization Form to scope out some additional consulting services with McMahon Transportation Engineers & Planners. Further discussion was planned for the next meeting. Ms. Daniels discussed the potential for further peer review of the McMahon concepts. After some discussion, the members agreed to provide ideas for both short-term and long-term corridor improvements. Those will be compiled for the next meeting and Ms. Sherman will add implementation measures suggested in both the Road Safety Audit and Parking Study.

Mr. Varrell noted concern for the condition of sidewalk along Washington Street and suggested shrinking lanes widths and making Exchange Street one-way. He also offered some criticism of the MAPC Parking Study. He related his experience with the now defunct group òWalk Hollistonö and noted their purchase of some streetscape amenities and advocacy for the raised crosswalks installed in 2010.

A workshop announcement from MassDevelopment and the Massachusetts Downtown Initiative was circulated for a workshop on January 27th in Brockton regarding design guidelines and lighting in downtowns.

The Chairman noted that he had made a tentative appointment with the Finance Committee for Tuesday to discuss funding strategies for the Corridor Plan. Ms. Sherman reported that there was no news on either the MAPC DLTA funding request or the Downtown Initiative Program technical assistance request.

2. Approval of Minutes- December 3 and December 21, 2015

On a motion by Mr. Thorn, seconded by Mr. Matsuno, the meeting minutes of December 3 and 21, 2015 were approved as written.

3. Annual Town Meeting Articles: Zoning By-Law Amendments

Notice of the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 9th was provided by the Board of Selectmen. The Warrant is open and will close on March 18th. In addition to the Zoning By-

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Law amendment articles discussed with Atty. Bobrowski at the December 21st workshop, DCR Flood Hazard Program has suggested several small changes to the floodplain zoning.

Ann Chipman was present to discuss her concern for medical marijuana facilities located in the community and the lack of regulations regarding same. She noted the Board of Selectmen had discussed grow/processing facilities with several non-profit providers and were negotiating Host Community Agreements. She feels that the by-law should specifically regulate Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD), regardless of whether it is limited to grow/processing and not retail. After some discussion with selectmen Jay Leary and the site plan review versus special permit legal standards and process, the matter was continued to the next meeting. Ms. Sherman will seek out Atty. Bobrowski's counsel and discuss the matter with Building Inspector Peter Tartakoff.

4. FY17 Budget

Ms. Borman made a motion to approve two budget request scenarios as discussed, one status quo and one with a doubling of the Professional Services line item. Mr. Chamberlain seconded with all in favor.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. on a motion made and duly seconded. The next meeting was scheduled for January 21, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Sherman, Town Planner