

City of Winooski - Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

27 West Allen St. Winooski VT 05404 / 802 655 6510 / winooski.vt.org



Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, January 24, 2019 - 6:30pm
Location of Meeting: Winooski City Hall, 27 West Allen Street
Names (first and last) of Members Present: Pallas Ziporyn, Amy Houghton, Abby Bleything, Joseph Parron, Mike O'Brien - arrived at 7:06pm
Names (first and last) of City Staff Present: Eric Vorwald, AICP
Names (first and last) of Guests Present:
Call to Order by: Pallas Ziporyn
Minutes Recorded by: Eric Vorwald

I. Call to order

Minutes/Notes: With a quorum present, Vice-Chair Ziporyn called the meeting to order at 6:36pm.

II. Changes to the Agenda

Minutes/Notes: No changes to the agenda were offered.

III. Public Comment

Minutes/Notes: No public comments were offered.

IV. Approve Meeting Minutes from 1.10.19

Motion by: Amy to approve the minutes as presented. Second: Joe
Decision: 4 - 0 in favor of the motion.

Minutes/Notes: No changes to the minutes were identified.

V. City Updates

Minutes/Notes: Mr. Vorwald provided the Planning Commission with several updates including work by the Housing Commission, Presentation of the Master Plan at City Council, Municipal Planning Grant for wayfinding in and around Downtown, the hotel project in Downtown, Project Review Committee meeting to discuss 401 Main Street, and other projects in the gateways.

VI. Review of Future Planning Priorities

Minutes/Notes: Mr. Vorwald provided the Commission with a list of items that he has been keeping over the past several months that includes information on potential changes to the zoning regulations. Mr. Vorwald reviewed the list and provided commentary on each item. The Commission members discussed specifics and history related to several of the items.

After the review, the Commission asked Mr. Vorwald to come back with a list of priorities and identify changes that could be easy to make without requiring much discussion. It was also noted that the Commission would like to spend several meetings discussing parking and changes that could be made to balance the needs of the non-residential uses in the City while still ensuring unintended consequences do not arise and adversely impact the rest of the community.



Mr. Vorwald also identified several changes that the Planning Commission had previously approved but that were never adopted into the regulations by Council. He noted that he would bring this information back again for the Commission to discuss and determine if the changes were still relevant. Finally, Mr. Vorwald noted that there were several changes he would like to make to try and clean up the language in the regulations that pertain to the Downtown Zoning. Since there is a separate appendix with this information, he noted it may be appropriate to combine it with the rest of the document to possibly eliminate the appendix.

VII. Review of Future Meeting Dates

Minutes/Notes: Due to the time, Mr. Vorwald noted this would be discussed at a future meeting to identify a day and time for the Commission to meet now that the master plan process is winding down.

VIII. Discussion of Joint Meeting with Public Works Commission - East Allen Street Scoping Study

Minutes/Notes: Mr. Vorwald noted that the February 14th meeting would be a joint meeting with the Public Works Commission to host the first local concerns meeting for the East Allen Street Scoping Study. He noted that this meeting would be run by a third party through the Regional Planning Commission but that the City would host the meeting. He also noted that the local concerns meeting would most likely be the majority of the Planning Commission meeting so they should not anticipate any new business.

Ms. Bleything noted that she is the appointee from the Commission to the steering committee and can provide information to and from the committee regarding progress on the study. She also reminded the Commission of a meeting in advance of the local concerns meeting to discuss bicycle and pedestrian concerns on a city-wide basis. She noted this would not necessarily focus on East Allen Street but might include areas along the corridor.

IX. Other Business

Minutes/Notes: No other business was noted.

X. Adjourn

Motion by: Amy Second: Mike Time: 8:10pm