

Hardwick Planning Commission

July 13, 2021

Minutes

HPC Members Present: Joyce Mandeville; Ken Davis; Michael Haveson; Shari Cornish; Jim Lewis; and Dave Gross, Chair

Also Present: Kristen Leahy, Hardwick Zoning Administrator (ZA)

Absent: None

Chair Dave Gross opened the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Ken Davis moved to approve the agenda. Joyce Mandeville seconded. All members were in favor.

Shari Cornish moved to approve the June 8, 2021 meeting minutes with a minor editorial change to Downtown Commission name. Joyce Mandeville seconded. All members were in favor.

Dubois and King, Inc. released a Parking Space Evaluation for the Vermont Agency of Transportation. There will be a public information process at some juncture in time. The Planning Commission reviewed the evaluation and formulated the following questions and recommendations:

- Question: Does VTRANS have a plan for the Mill Street segment of the project? Specifically, what will occur with the current access points and driveways/parking lots on Mill Street (Village Market, GRACE, Hays, etc)? Are sidewalks feasible?
- Recommendation: On South Main Street/Route 14, retain the handicap spots near the church and shift the centerline.
- Question: Regarding non-compliant parking spots that are being removed by this project, does the Town or does VTRANS have the authority to re-stripe parking spots after the project is complete?
- Question: Would it be possible to install temporary bump-out "simulations" this year that mimic those in the proposal to demonstrate how they will affect both pedestrian and vehicle traffic?
- Recommendation: Remove the proposed bulb-out near the crosswalk on North Main Street by the laundry and across from the Inn. Replace the existing parking spot with a painted "No Parking" demarcation.
- Question: The parking evaluation states that on Mill Street the 4 parking spots in front of the laundry will be reduced to 3. Could this be clarified? Does it include the spots in front of the former Galaxy bookstore (bank building)?

No new information regarding the proposal on Hopkins Hill (AT&T expansion) was received prior to the meeting. AT&T will be meeting with HED and the Best family on July 14, 2021. A final site plan will probably be received prior to the August meeting.

The Carey Road property, which is currently owned by the Town of Hardwick, may have future prospects. If the Select Board wishes to pursue a change in the zoning district (currently Highway Mixed Use), the Board will need to submit a formal request for review to the HPC.

Dave provided suggestions for the Phase II recommendations. Parking spaces and crosswalks in the East Hardwick village were discussed. Dave will provide his images to the East Hardwick Neighborhood

Organization (EHNO) and will solicit responses from the neighbors. A study of the entire village and possible parking/biking/pedestrian schematic may be sought (Local Motion?)

The next meeting will be conducted by Zoom with a physical location of the third floor of the Memorial Building. The date will be August 10, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Joyce Mandeville moved to close the meeting at 8:27. Ken Davis seconded. All members were in favor.

The next HPC meeting will be by Zoom on August 10, 2021.

~ Respectfully submitted, Kristen Leahy, ZA