

Hardwick Planning Commission
August 9, 2022
Zoom Meeting
Minutes

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

Also Present: Kristen Leahy, Hardwick Zoning Administrator and Nancy Shepard.

Absent: Jim Lewis

Chair Dave Gross opened the meeting at 6:45 pm. Ken Davis moved to approve the agenda as written. Shari Cornish seconded. All members were in favor. Shari Cornish moved to approve the July 13, 2022 meeting minutes as written. Joyce Mandeville seconded. All members were in favor.

Zoning Updates:

The Planning Commission held their public hearing for the proposed updates on August 9, 2022 at 6:30 pm – prior to the regular meeting. An initial review of the proposed updates was conducted by NVDA, Alison Low, and there was concern that the zoning district boundary amendment would not match the stated purpose of the Highway Mixed Use district. The location of the amendment follows the rail line rather than the actual highway.

Motion: Shari Cornish made the motion to forward the proposed zoning bylaw updates from the August 9, 2022 Public Hearing to the Hardwick Select board for their consideration. Joyce Mandeville seconded the motion. All members were in favor. Ken Davis abstained as his property would be directly impacted by the proposed update.

Phase II:

Local Motion has submitted a proposal for pedestrian and traffic safety updates in East Hardwick's village center. This is a preliminary examination of the crosswalks and intersections in East Hardwick. The draft will be reviewed at the annual meeting of the East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization (EHNO). Once the initial proposal is finalized, the end product will be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

Michael Haveson reported that the two speed bumps have not been returned to West Church Street after the completion of the paving work. There was also a question about the future use of radar speed signs throughout Hardwick. Kristen will ask David Upson, Town Manager, about the current plans for radar speed signs.

Updates from the Community Development Coordinator:

Tracy Martin, the Community Development Coordinator, provided an overview of the current state of town grant funding (attached). A brief distillation of her information was made by the zoning coordinator. The Safe Streets and Roads for All grant will not be pursued at this time as it does not appear to be a realistic source of funds for Hardwick. The Better Connections grant is a solid possibility for future funding. The Transportation Planning Initiative may also provide funding for planning. These monies are administered by NVDA. The last time that Hardwick received money from this funding source was in 2008. Hardwick's seat on the Transportation Advisory Committee is currently vacant.

The HPC will discuss the Transportation Alternatives Program, Better Connections, and the Bylaw Modernization grant opportunities in September.

Motion: Joyce Mandeville made the motion to support the pursuit of the Better Connections grant. Ken Davis seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Updates from Commission Members:

No additional updates were received.

Motion: Ken Davis made the motion to conclude the hearing at 7:40 pm. Joyce Mandeville seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

The meeting ended at 7:41 pm.

The next HPC meeting will be at 6:30 pm on September 13, 2022 with Zoom and in-person options.

~ Respectfully submitted, Kristen Leahy, ZA