

Minutes of the meeting Wednesday, April 4, 2018 Of the Planning, Zoning and Housing Committee Of the RTM

With 11 of 15 members present, constituting a quorum, the regular meeting of the Planning, Zoning and Housing Committee was called to order by Chair Joanne Hennessy on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 7:05PM in Town Hall.

Present:

Chair Joanne Hennessy, Secretary Amy Chickles, Liz Bacon, Carolyn Bayne, Tim Goertel, Ted Hawkins, Fred Hebert, Caroline Luz, Petr Marousek, Arpita Muchhal, Rolf Obin

Absent:

Amy Barsanti, Joan Davis, Elise Feldman, Morgan Whittier, Penny Wilson

1. Approve minutes of February 15, 2018 meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were sent to all members. Muchhal moved to approve with Hawkins seconded. Minutes were approved with 10 in favor, 1 abstaining.

2. Update on current Planning & Zoning Commission issues

Person giving report: John Sini, Chair of P&Z Commission

Mr. Sini gave a brief overview of various projects currently in front of the P&Z Commission, including:

- The Ox Ridge Hunt Club land usage now owned by the Town: Engineers are doing a traffic study, Parks and Recreation are putting together an initial plan and will present to both neighbors and the public
- A possible hearing coming up to discuss the meaning of 'open space' as defined by the town plan
- Discussions on regulatory changes in business districts, whether to define a basement as a 3rd story, sign regulations and other items
- Updates on various building projects, including: Noroton Heights, the storage facility near Noroton Heights, Parklands (the new senior residential building near I-95), Fitch Academy, Maplewood expansion, housing proposal in the Tokeneke subdivision, Old Town Hall Homes, the Corbin Drive project and Pemberton 16
- Various state statutes are being monitored, including one on inclusion of affordable housing
- The Board of Education is looking at possibilities for revamping Ox Ridge School which may affect the municipal usage zone
- Other issues: the lights at the high school fields, foot traffic in the downtown business district and a push to keep seniors in town, and the Grand List started this year

3. Cell Tower Lease

Person giving report: Joanne Hennessy

The cell phone tower located near the Town Recycling and Refuse Center lease is up for extension. It is a small revenue generator for the Town. The RTM will vote on this issue at the April 23, 2018 meeting.

4. Other Business

The Board of Finance meets April 16, 2018 to discuss the budget. The RTM will vote at the May 2018 meeting unless otherwise noted.

The possible relocation of the Tokeneke Club's paddle courts is off the table as they have extended their lease at the Ox Ridge Hunt Club.

There being no other business, Chair Hennessy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Chickles, Clerk

Draft: 4/15/18

Approved by Committee on: XXXXXXXXXXXX

Note: The meeting was recorded by Darien Government Access Television and can be accessed at www.darienct.gov/TV79.

Note: The next meeting of the Planning, Zoning and Housing Committee will be Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00PM in the Town Hall Auditorium.