

## WEST WINDSOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Draft Minutes

November 29, 2012

Present: Hal Pyke, Elvin Kaplan, Al Keiller, Mark Isenberg, Barbara Truex, Martha Harrison

1. Call to Order – Planning Commission Chair Hal Pyke called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.
2. Changes or Additions – None
3. Public Comment – None
4. Economic Development Plan – Al handed out copies of the plan matrix which included comments from Barbara and Jason but did not incorporate Martha's comments. Hal handed out a separate 6-month plan that he developed. There was discussion about the resort not being sellable until the foreclosure action is resolved. Al said he envisions both a longer-term strategic matrix to include in the Town Plan and a 6-month tactical plan with specific actions and responsible parties. Hal noted that the state is looking for more detailed plans. Martha noted that there are small changes that should be made throughout the Town Plan. Hal said the municipal planning grant is for updating the Recreation and Economic Development chapters. Martha agreed but said she thinks the Planning Commission (PC) can develop a plan that is useful for West Windsor and then write it up in narrative form for the Town Plan. Elvin said if the Selectboard is not in agreement, the plan will just get put on a shelf so we need to make sure all the players are on the same page. There was discussion about the PC's role in drafting the plan and the Selectboard's role in adopting and executing the plan. There was also discussion about the elements that the state requires to be included in the Economic Development chapter. Al asked if the existing language about encouraging agriculture, forestry and home-based businesses should remain in the chapter. Martha said Jason offered to focus on the narrative for the Town Plan while the PC continues to flesh out the matrix. There was discussion about what to include in the town plan, including current economic conditions and a description of the PC's process. Barbara suggested including the matrix as an appendix. Martha noted plans for an ice rink on the school soccer field. Hal noted that the Town Hall is also an important resource. Al offered to complete the matrix and produce both a strategic and tactical version. Al also offered to revise the Economic Development chapter. Martha said she thinks Jason is going to revise the Recreation chapter. Mark said he'd like to see the PC finish the revisions in advance of the May deadline. Elvin suggested trying to have it ready by the end of January. The PC agreed. Al asked if the survey revealed a desire for additional recreation facilities. Martha said there was support for an adventure park but that's not under the town's control. Al said the recreation chapter should mention the survey and summarize the results. Martha said, in general, people don't want ATV trails and they want the ski area to reopen. Martha noted that the survey showed that people don't really understand the importance of Mile Long Field to the trail system as a whole. Barbara suggested exploring other options (e.g. a long-term lease). There was discussion about future opportunities to raise awareness about Mile Long Field. Mark noted that, like the sewer system, Mile Long Field can't be sold right now due to the unresolved foreclosure action.
5. Minutes – November 15<sup>th</sup>: **Al moved to approve the minutes of November 15<sup>th</sup> as written. Barbara seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
6. Adjourn – **Elvin moved to adjourn at 7:30 PM. Mark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison