

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 7/9/15
TIME: 11:15 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Seymour Planning & Zoning Commission
Special Meeting

June 18, 2015
Plan of Conservation & Development Workshop
Norma Drummer Room

Members Present: Dave Bitso, Chairman (6:15), Robert Koskelowski, Bill Paecht, Joseph Ziehl

Members Absent: Walter Birdsell, Tom Lavranchuk

Guests Present: Joanna Rogalski

Meeting called to order at 6:10 by Mr. Ziehl.

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ziehl turned the meeting over to Joanna Rogalski, Regional Planner from the Regional Valley Council of Governments.

Agenda Item #1: Discuss Public Act No. 15-95 An Act Concerning Municipal Plans of Conservation and Development

Ms. Rogalski stated that the State Senate passed a major change. Municipalities now have until July 1, 2016 to complete their plans without a penalty.

After Board discussion, it was decided that the planning will continue following the current schedule.

Agenda Item #2: Discuss POCD updated timeline

Elections are to be held in November. With the possibility of change in positions to go into effect, it was decided to keep Phase III November 30th deadline dates as the goal.

Phase III -

The public hearing on Adoption will remain on November 30th and a special meeting will be called directly after the public hearing to finalize the plan.

Phase II -

The exact date of the public workshop still needs to be confirmed. Mr. Koskelowski would like the meeting to be held in a larger room with the hopes that we will have more town participation which would encourage more residents to vote.

Ms. Rogalski inquired who she would work with regarding publicity. Mr. Koskelowski recommended working with Rory Burke in the First Selectman's office. He can assist with posting notices on the Town website, Voices, Valley Sentinel, and utilizing the Code Red System.

Phase I -

Ms. Rogalski inquired when we will discuss the results of the public workshop on July 9th. It was decided that we can discuss during the regularly scheduled meeting that follows the public workshop on July 9th and add as an agenda item.

Ms. Rogalski inquired if anyone had any other comments/concerns regarding the current timeline. Everyone agreed we stay on the current track.

Agenda Item #3: Review Department Head Questionnaire

Ms. Rogalski explained the purpose of the Department Head Questionnaire is to solicit input on how to build upon Seymour's current strengths as well as improvements of current weaknesses.

Ms. Rogalski inquired as to how best distribute the questionnaire. Rory Burke in the First Selectman's office can deliver to each department head/put in their mailbox. It was also recommended that Ms. Rogalski contact the First Selectman's office to request she be invited to join the next Department Head Meeting where she can introduce herself and discuss the importance of the questionnaire.

Agenda Item #4: Review Online Questionnaire

Ms. Rogalski advised that she will be utilizing the software "Survey Monkey" to distribute the questionnaire. It is what Derby used and it worked well for them.

Each question was then reviewed and solicited input for any comments/changes/additions.

Question 1: Neighborhoods of Seymour will be defined as West or East of the river.

Questions #13-14: Ms. Rogalski inquired if there are any walking trails in Seymour. Mr. Paecht indicated he will provide a book of trails that lists trails in Seymour.

Question #16: Mr. Koskelowski advised removal of Housatonic River as it is private to local homeowners only. Separate Chatfield-Lopresti School and Chatfield Park as they are two different locations. Add George Street Park. Re-word Community Center to Randall Park.

Question #18: It was requested to add bus service to Waterbury and Bridgeport. Currently Seymour only offers bus service to New Haven. It was requested to also add open space in Seymour.

Question #19: Add to Route 8 and Route 67 - Road conditions/traffic. It was requested to also add Route 34, Route 313 and Derby Avenue (upper and lower).

Question #22: it was recommended to add Route 34 Redevelopment. In addition, to add the following streets for beautification- Bank Street, Humphrey Street, Lower Main Street, and by the railroad station.

Mr. Koskelowski commented that many of the streets visible through Town are State roads.

Question #25: It was requested to add- improve condition of pedestrian bridge by the railroad station as well as the railroad trestle.

Question #27: It was recommended to add better connection times for layovers to/from Bridgeport train station. Also add bus service to Waterbury and Bridgeport.

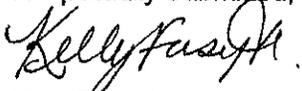
Ms. Rogalski thanked everyone for their comments and input. The next step is to distribute the questionnaire, collect responses and generate a report. Ms. Rogalski will discuss with Rory Burke on distributing the survey through the Town website as well as residents visiting the library and community center to use their computers to complete the survey.

Agenda Item #5: Public Input Sessions

The first step is to determine a date/location. Ms. Rogalski will discuss with Mr. Koskelowski and discuss at our next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Forsyth
Recording Secretary