

WEST WINDSOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Draft Minutes
September 27, 2012

Present: Hal Pyke, Elvin Kaplan, Barbara Truex, Mark Isenberg, Jason Rasmussen, Courtney McKaig, Martha Harrison

1. Call to Order – Planning Commission Chair Hal Pyke called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.
2. Changes or Additions – None
3. Public Comment – Courtney said the Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership has received a Community Health Prevention Grant for tobacco prevention, healthy retail environments and healthy community design. Courtney said there are several tools that can be used to assess things such as “walkability & bikeability.” Courtney mentioned the lack of crosswalks in Brownsville and the lack of access to the school gym. Courtney noted that school policies were adopted last year that make use of the gym difficult. Courtney also noted that there are no building use policies for the Town Hall or the Grange Hall. Courtney said she has information about shared use policies if the town is interested. Courtney brought up the idea of a map supported by local businesses. Courtney noted that West Windsor’s trails aren’t accurately represented on the Upper Valley Trails Alliance website. Courtney offered to do one of the assessments and share the results with the Planning Commission (PC). Courtney offered to host another community breakfast, in conjunction with the PC, to share the results of the recreation survey. Elvin asked if there is any payback to the store for participating in the “healthy retail” program. Courtney said there is free media coverage available. Courtney spoke in favor of an “adventure park” for the resort. Hal said it’s important to get people together to agree on an approach. Elvin spoke in favor of the crosswalk idea. Courtney gave the PC a list of assessment tools.
4. Discuss plans for compiling and analyzing recreation survey results – Martha said there was a misunderstanding about the data entry so she is doing most of it, with some help from Angela at the Regional Planning Commission office. Martha said 123 of the 185 surveys received so far have been entered. Martha said because of the way survey monkey is setup, question #16 is going to require a separate excel file for interpretation. Regarding facilities, Martha said there will be five or six things that people clearly want or do not want.
5. Economic Development – Hal noted the “Lessons Learned” email that Martha sent recently from the “Small Towns/Big Ideas” project. Elvin said the recent joint meeting of several committees was focused on big ideas. There was discussion about how to get public input on economic development. Elvin said he would like to have more joint meetings. The PC agreed to invite the other boards and some key constituencies to a SWOT analysis, which would also be open to the public. Barbara said she thinks it is important to get input from Orange Lake. The PC tentatively scheduled a meeting for October 10th and a SWOT analysis for October 25th. Barbara suggested getting a copy of the Economic Development chapter to participants in advance. There was discussion about high-speed internet access. Martha said EC Fiber will be making a presentation at the Town Hall on Saturday, October 6th at 11:00 AM. Mark noted that Brownsville General offers free wi-fi. Jason provided a list of all businesses in town.
6. Minutes – July 26th: **The PC approved the minutes of July 26, 2012 by consensus. August 30th: **Barbara moved to approve the minutes of August 30, 2012. Elvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.****
7. Adjourn – **The PC adjourned by consensus at 7:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison