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APPROVED

HUNTINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of April 22, 2013

PRESENT: Everett Marshall, Julia Austin, Knox Cummin, Heather Pembrook, Gordon Miller

ABSENT: Dana Cummings

OTHERS PRESENT:

MINUTES: Heidi Racht

Agenda

- 7 pm MEETING BEGINS
Town Plan Revisions
1. Natural Resources draft - Dana Cummings
 2. Population Data draft - Everett Marshall
 3. Transportation draft - Heather Pembrook
- 8:45 Public Comment
8:55 Minutes of April 8, 2012
Mail
9:07 Member Business
Town Plan revisions topics for May 13
9:30 Adjourn

The meeting began at 7:13 pm; chaired by Dana Cummings.

Town Plan	<p>POPULATION DATA:</p> <p>The Commission discussed the section on Population, prepared by Everett Marshall. The draft included a table of population changes in the town, county and state since 1950. The changes in population were discussed. For example, in the 1950s, Huntington's population dropped while they county's increased almost 18%. Heidi Racht noted that this was the time when the IBM plant was built, which might account for the large increases in Essex Junction, which also changed significantly in the 1960s. Gordon Miller suggested that the large percentage increase in Huntington's population in the 1980s could be accounted for by the higher cost of land in the rest of the county, comparatively speaking. Later in the document, Marshall had demographic comparisons between the 2000 and 2010 censuses. It was suggested by Heather Pembrook that the comparisons be presented in the same direction, so they are more easily read.</p> <p>Marshall also put data for commuting to work and labor force participation.</p> <p>Knox Cummin suggested bar graphs for age demographics.</p>
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	<p>In the course of the conversation, there was also discussion on merged lots. Racht insisted that the intention of the merged lots that the Commission had implemented for adjacent property that comes under common ownership has not been interpreted the way it was intended since the regs passed in 2009. She said that any lots that had gone through subdivision were not considered merged if purchased by adjacent property owners - and gave the example of the two separate lots that were still considered separate in the Lower Village when Don Sheldon's subdivision had been reviewed three years ago.</p> <p>Marshall said that he "might add school demographics" to this section.</p> <p>TRANSPORTATION: Heather Pembroke briefly reviewed a six-page proposal on Transportation. Although there hadn't been time for the group to review the document and all agreed that it should be reviewed at the next meeting, some of the aspects of the draft were reviewed. Pembroke told the Commission that she had consulted with Joe Segale (former Selectboard member and transportation planner), members of the Selectboard, CCMPO, and Hank Lambert, who developed the Vermont Local Roads program. She reported that the section on Issues was drawn from public comments.</p> <p>Pembroke also presented a sheet with seven outstanding issues. The Commission briefly discussed the town's budget for road maintenance and what the actual cost is for regular maintenance and "special events." There are a number of projects that tie together into one issue.</p> <p>The Commission discussed looking toward strengthening a relationship with VTrans and with the State Reps.</p> <p>There was discussion about public use of school buses and how to make use of this existing asset to create a usable public transportation system for Huntington's residents.</p>
Minutes of April 8, 2013	MOTION: Julia Austin moved to approve with changes; seconded by Knox Cummin. Minutes approved unanimously with changes.
Mail	1. CCRPC Fiscal work plan draft. Document is available for review..
Public Comment	No public was present.
Member Business	1. Everett Marshall talked about the ECOS Project meeting. The local grant, which addresses natural resources for the four towns, will cover

	<p>online information on natural sites to the website. He mentioned that there is a new coordinator, Rebecca Gorney. He also reported that the inventory for towns that did not allocated money toward the project would be “mostly roadside inventory.” He estimated that the project would need an additional \$3000-\$3500 in order to create the project as envisioned, due to the receipt of a smaller grant.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Heidi Racht apprised the Commission of an issue that has arisen around an Accessory dwelling on the Christiana property (266 Texas Hill) and a request for a second access, which is not allowed by the regs. 3. Racht shared a request from Town Administrator Barbara Elliott that a member of the Commission consider being the town’s rep to CCRPC. Elliott had attended a meeting on behalf of the town and found it to be interesting and informative. 4. The town is about to advertise for community volunteers to fill openings on Boards. The HPC still has an opening and some interest has been expressed and two names have been suggested. The Commission agreed that the HPC opening should be included in any solicitation from the town, so there could be a bigger pool of applicants. 5. Racht asked the Commission to interpret wording on the Village Hill subdivision decision regarding which utilities should be shown in the plat to be recorded. She had received a request from Dean Grover, engineer for the project, for the clarification; Grover had noted that in a project of this detail, showing all the utilities on the plat would be hard to decipher. With Knox Cummin having recused himself from all the discussion on this topic, the Commission stated that the utilities should only be shown on the plat plan from the existing pole; the detail should be on the supporting document, which will be placed in the project file.
<p>Discussion of upcoming Town Plan business / agenda requests</p>	<p>Heather Pembroke reported that Cindy Sprague, co-chair of the Huntington Conservation Commission, said that the HCC wanted to meet with the Commission. The resulting discussion produced the following action items:</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: Dana Cummings will send the draft of the Natural Resources section to the HPC prior to the meeting of May 13, when the section will be reviewed.</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: Heidi Racht will check with the HCC to see if the Commission can meet with it on May 21.</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: Racht will check with Tate Jeffrey to see if the Fire House conference room is available for May 21.</p>

ACTION ITEM: Natural Resources will be revised and sent to the HCC members by May 16 for discussion at the May 21 meeting.

Commission members are requested to get general comments to Dana Cummings by May 6 to be incorporated in the draft.

Town Plan, all first drafts:

1. Natural Resources – Dana Cummings
2. Transportation – Heather Pembrook
3. Economic Plan - Everett Marshall
4. Schools – second draft – Heidi Racht will coordinate with Ginger Lubkowitz

Knox Cummin asked that the sections on Housing (Gordon Miller) and Facilities (Heather Pembrook) get sent around sooner than has been the practice on this revision.

Adjournment: Everett Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Knox Cummin. The Commission adjourned the meeting at 9:14 pm.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES TO THE HPC: April 29, 2013

MINUTES APPROVED: May 13, 2013

APPROVED MINUTES TO THE TOWN CLERK: May 16, 2013