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 DATE April 15, 2014

APPROVED

**HUNTINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of April 1, 2014

**PRESENT:** Everett Marshall, Knox Cummin, Mark Smith

**ABSENT:** Beverly Little Thunder

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dawn Taylor, Terry Ryan

**MINUTES:** Heidi Racht

- 7 pm Meeting Begins
  - Public Comment
  - Minutes of March 10, 2014
  - Mail
- 7:15 Terry Ryan, candidate for HPC open position
- 7:45 Town Hall Site Plan Review - decision
- 8 pm Dawn Taylor, candidate for HPC open position
- 8:30 Review Town Plan section goals
- 9:15 Member Business
- 9:30 Adjourn

The meeting began at 7:12 pm; chaired by Everett Marshall. Minutes were taken by Heidi Racht.

<p><b>Mail</b></p>	<p>1. Richmond Planning Commission: changes to Zoning Regulations. The Commission briefly discussed the creamery lot project. Everett Marshall took the document to review.</p>
<p><b>Terry Ryan, candidate for HPC open position</b></p>	<p>The Commission met with Terry Ryan, an 11-year resident of Huntington. He is on the Board of the CHSA, the nonprofit that operates the Camels Hump Nordic Ski Area; co-organizes Planet Huntington, a travel slide series, at the Huntington Public Library.</p> <p>Among other comments in answer to questions from the Commission: Huntington needs some direction on how it grows and develops; he became interested because of the DRB (Development Review Board) discussion at Town Meeting; he would be willing to consider serving on the DRB as well as the Planning Commission.</p> <p>Areas of interest:        Transportation – specifically bike lanes were mentioned        Structures – cell towers and placement in the community        Recreation and open space – currently active in the CHSA (Camels Hump Skiers Association)        Housing – this community is not walk-able; car is needed to go anywhere        He ended, “There are quite a few areas I am interested in; some areas I am</p>

	<p>better suited than others.”</p> <p>Other Comments:          Talked about the CHSA where he did the work to create the 501c3; works annually with landowners for permission to continue the trail system, which is mostly on private land; described it as a “labor of love”          Compared Norway and Texas, places where he has lived, noting huge differences in philosophy of the cultures of the two places.          “We tried to be part of where we were. We are trying to do our part.”</p>
<p><b>Huntington Town Hall Site Plan Decision</b></p>	<p>The Commission discussed the draft of the decision for the Site Plan Review of the Huntington Town Hall, held on March 10, 2014. The project addresses ADA access and includes parking, a new ramp and porch on the front and a lift and new stairs on the back of the building, as well as interior modifications such as a new restroom.</p> <p>The Commission made modifications to the draft, including language that sets the number of attendees at 40 to quantify the meaning of a “large event.”</p> <p><b>ACTION ITEM: Mark Smith moved to approve the Site Plan; seconded by Knox Cummin. The project was approved unanimously.</b></p>
<p><b>Dawn Taylor, candidate for HPC open position</b></p>	<p>The Commission met with Dawn Taylor, who has been a resident of Huntington.</p> <p>Among her comments, in answer to questions from the Commission:</p> <p>She hopes to be a lifelong resident and is interested in how things turn out: plan for things that come up.          She is good at organizing and researching with a background in electrical engineering and applied physics.          Taylor proposed a checklist for accessory dwelling applicants, volunteering to help with this.          She also suggested a guide for getting a variance.</p> <p>She would be willing to serve on the DRB as well as the Planning Commission.</p> <p>Areas of interest:          Housing          Elder Housing          Child Care          Population Data          Economics</p>

	<p>Other comments:  She is good at research and has the time; plans to come to every meeting.  “I am not a one-issue candidate (referring to discussion at this meeting and previous meetings about her accessory dwelling petition to change the regs for a second driveway access). I have a multi-faceted life; I have many interests.”</p>
<p><b>Other points raised in the interviews</b></p>	<p>The Commission discussed with each candidate the responsibilities of the Board and asked each if he or she would be willing to serve as an alternate. (See comment at end of minutes.) Also discussed were the meeting nights, which could be changed, if necessary.</p> <p>The position is an appointment until Town Meeting Day 2015.</p> <p>After more discussion, the Commission decided to recommend the appointment of Terry Ryan to the vacant seat and Dawn Taylor to serve as the alternate.</p> <p>Review of positions:</p> <p>2015 Cummin  2016 Marshall  2016 Little Thunder  2017 Smith  2015 appointment, 1 year (first year of three-year term)</p>
<p><b>Town Plan</b></p>	<p>The Commission spent a brief amount of time on the Town Plan. Mark Smith commented positively on the Plan.</p> <p>The discussion then touched briefly on the fact that the plan has not been moved forward by the Selectboard, which has had it for two almost months. The work on the regs will be stalled if the plan is not approved and there is the issue of the timing of using the grant.</p> <p><b>ACTION ITEM: Knox Cummin will follow up with a letter to the Selectboard about its progress on the Town Plan.</b></p> <p><b>ACTION ITEM: Commissioners will read the plan and bring implementation areas of interest to the next meeting.</b></p>
<p><b>Minutes of March 10, 2014</b></p>	<p>Everett Marshall moved to approve the minutes of March 10, 2014 with changes; seconded by Mark Smith. Approved unanimously.</p>

**Adjournment:** Everett Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mark Smith. The Commission adjourned the meeting at 9:02 pm.

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES TO THE HPC:** April 6, 2014

**MINUTES APPROVED:** April 15, 2014

**APPROVED MINUTES TO THE TOWN CLERK:** April 15, 2014

**Note:** The HPC Clerk spoke after the meeting with VLCT attorney Garret Baxter, who stated that the Selectboard cannot appoint alternates to an elected Commission.