

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 15, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Clemens (Chairwoman); Andrew Boutin, Nick Meyer, Aaron Martin, Amber Thibeault, David Nistico. (John Alden was absent.)

ADMINISTRATION: Robin Pierce, Development Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Regina Mahoney, Regional Planning.

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Audience for Visitors
3. Additions/Amendments to the Agenda
4. Minutes
5. Work Session: Comprehensive Plan
6. Other Planning Commission Items
7. Adjournment

1. CALL TO ORDER

Diane Clemens called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

2. AUDIENCE FOR VISITORS

None.

3. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

4. WORK SESSION: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Maps

All maps should have black text for roads except the Transportation Map (Map 4).

Map 1 – Natural Resources

- Regina Mahoney will research and better define rare, threatened, endangered species and include language in the text.

Map 2 – Historic Sites and Districts

- The village's list of historic sites and districts needs to match the map. The historic sites on the map came from the state analysis and inventory. The village list needs updating because some buildings are now gone.
- The Planning Commission will better define the database of historic sites in the village.

Map 3 – Recreation & Open Space

- Cascade Park should be listed as such, not listed just as Cascade.
- There are two community garden sites at the West Street Complex that should be shown on the map.

- The dog park should be included in the West Street Complex.
- There was discussion of reinvigorating Stevens Park.

Map 4 – Transportation

No changes.

Map 5 – Community Facilities

- The police station needs to be shown on Maple Street and removed from Main Street.
- Town office should read “Municipal Office” and an icon should be shown on 81 Main Street.
- Publicly funded childcare facilities should be shown on the map. The text in the plan should mention that there are other childcare services available in the community and the village office has a list.
- Reference to the waste water treatment plant should be removed from the IBM property.

Map 6 – Non-motorized Transportation

- Routes with on-road bike facilities should be shown.
- The path through Stevens Park should be on the map.
- Change the section from Central Street to North Street to shared use path.
- Remove the listing of miles for sidewalk and shared use path on the map.
- Regina Mahoney will check with Local Motion regarding bike route information

Map 7 – Waste Water Distribution System

- Sewer pump stations should be listed. Regina Mahoney will contact Jim Jutras for information.

Map 8 – Water Distribution System

- Regina Mahoney will confirm hydrants on Cushing, Lavoie, Dunbar, Ketcham, Giles, and Old Colchester Road.
- Regina Mahoney will verify “vault” means “meter vault”.

Map 9 – Existing Land Use

- Delete “No human activity...” in the legend and change the areas with that designation along the river and Warner Ave. and Old Colchester Road to ‘natural area’ and areas in neighborhoods and St. James Place to ‘residential’ and areas by the fairgrounds to ‘mass assembly’.
- Add Vermont Neighborhood Designation on Roscoe Court.

Map 10 – Future Land Use

- Clarify that “village center” is Designated Village Center and VCD.
- Open space area on Warner Ave. is changed to natural resources.

Map 11 – Flood Hazard Areas

No changes.

Chapter I – General Planning Background

The highlights, underlining, and spacing can be removed as indicated.

Chapter II – History with an Eye Toward the Future

The title should be corrected to Chapter III. Regina Mahoney will clarify and better define the sites on maps and why they are there.

Section 4. Open Space

Regina Mahoney will add more clarity regarding rare, threatened, endangered species.

Update of document to date

The Planning Commission concurred with the changes highlighted overall. Regina Mahoney will finalize the chapters.

5. OTHER PLANNING COMMISSION ITEMS

Next meeting: June 5, 2014.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Aaron Martin, SECOND by Andrew Boutin, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTING: unanimous (6-0); motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

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