

TOWN OF BEDFORD
May 22, 2023
PLANNING BOARD WORKSHOP
MINUTES

A meeting of the Bedford Planning Board was held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meeting House Road, Bedford, NH.

Present: Charlie Fairman (Chair), Hal Newberry (Vice Chair), Chris Swiniarski (Alternate), Matt Sullivan, Steve Clough, Phil Greazzo (Town Council), Matt Nichols (Secretary), Priscilla Malcolm, John Nelson (Alternate), Becky Hebert (Planning Director).

Absent: Logan Johnson (Alternate), Michael Strand (Town Council Alternate).

I. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairman Fairman called the workshop meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. New Business:

Ms. Hebert explained that tonight's meeting is an informal workshop to discuss general community planning issues. The following topics were discussed:

Election of Officers 2022-2023:

Ms. Hebert reviewed the Planning Board officers and committee assignments including Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Conservation Commission Liaison, Historic District Commission Liaison and appointments to the Southern NH Regional Planning Commission. Ms. Hebert said that Bedford has 3 full-time members, 3 alternates on the Southern NH Regional Planning Commission. There is one vacancy for an alternate position but no re-appointments are needed for SNHPC this year. The Town Council will continue to advertise the volunteer opportunity for the vacant position. Mr. Clough expressed an interest in continuing to serve as the Historic District and Conservation Commission liaisons. The Board will need to vote at a slate of officers at their next regular meeting.

Housing Working Group Update:

The Board discussed the consultant selection process for the Housing Opportunities Planning Project. Housing Working Group members Matt Nichols and Hal Newbury provided an update on the proposals. The Working Group will be interviewing two teams later this week. The Board agreed that the Housing Working Group could make the final consultant selection and bring the final contract to the Planning Board on June 12 for review and acceptance.

Discussion of Master Plan Implementation Matrix

Ms. Hebert explained that the Implementation Matrix was removed from the Master Plan document during the final editing process. The matrix summarizes the action items from the plan based on the guiding principles. The matrix also includes a general timeframe and responsible party for completing each action item. The Board discussed the matrix and decided that they would like a spreadsheet prepared with the action items assigned to the Planning Board. The Board could review and update the spreadsheet from time to time. The group agreed not to pursue publishing a separate implementation plan and felt the information was contained in the Master Plan document.

III. Adjournment:

MOTION by Ms. Malcolm to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Mr. Fairman duly seconded the motion. Vote taken – all in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted: Becky Hebert, Planning Director