Town of Jefferson Office of the Planning Board

Minutes March 22, 2022

Members present: Chairman Michael Meehan; Gil Finch, Mike Smith, alternate; Jason

Call, Kevin Meehan, Selectmen's representative; Wayne Kellner, alternate Absent: Donna Laurent, Bob Roy, alternate

Others present: Charlene Wheeler, Board secretary, June Garneau, Olin Garneau,

Michelle King

In the absence of a regular Board member, Mike Smith was designated a voting member for this meeting.

Minutes

A motion was made by Jason Call to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting as read, seconded by Gil Finch. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous.

Consultations

The Planning Board continued work on the Master Plan returning to a draft of Chapter 1: Land Use. Revisions were made to the descriptions of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment in the paragraphs on page 19 and the role played by the Select Board. Also, on page 24 some goals were examined again and edited.

June Garneau, the Board's consultant, continued with a new draft of Chapter 7: Natural Resources & Climate. Responses to questions asked in the Master Plan survey pertaining to this section were reviewed. There was a discussion of the section on climate change but Board members agreed this document was not the place for a detailed study. The town must deal with hazards such as severe storms or flooding, etc. Next was a description of conserved land areas in the town along with charts. Major surface water areas including rivers, brooks, & ponds were delineated. Wetlands and water resources were described as well as floodplains. It was noted there is a section in the Land Use Ordinance pertaining to floodplains and the Board has made use of federal flood plain maps for Jefferson. Next groundwater and the aquifer along with a map and their importance was discussed. As population increases there is more demand for water. How can the town protect this important resource? Agricultural resources and farms plus forest resources and trees were described. It was decided some charts could be eliminated. Esthetically, as well as, economically important scenic resources of the town completed the discussion. Goals for this chapter will be addressed when the Board again meets with June on April 12. June and Olin then left the meeting.

Communications

The Zoning Board of Adjustment has received an application from Heartwood Public Charter School to operate a K-8 school on Davenport Road. A hearing has been scheduled for April 14.

Information about the annual NH Planning and Zoning Spring Conference on April 30 and May 7 was circulated. Both will be virtual meetings but one needs to register ahead of time.

The Board secretary reported a communication with the town's attorney who has confirmed the Master Plan, once completed, does not need to be reviewed by counsel.

Other Business

Election of officers took place. Jason Call made the motion Michael Meehan and Gil Finch serve as chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, for 2022. The motion was seconded by Mike Smith. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous. Jason Call made the motion Mike Smith now be made a regular member of the Board (moving up from an alternate member), seconded by Gil Finch. The vote to accept the motion was unanimous. Chairman Meehan needs to renew his oath of office as his term has expired. Mike Smith would be required to take a new oath as his office is changing. The Board secretary will send those forms to the Select Board for signatures.

The Board's next regular meeting date is April 12, 2022.

Gil Finch made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jason Call. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Charlene Wheeler Secretary to the Board