

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Tracy Hall - Meeting Room

**Members Present:** Daniel Johnson, Brooke Adler, Tom Gray, Jeff Goodrich

**Members Absent:** Ralph Hybels, Richard Stucker, Anne Silberfarb

**Clerk:** Phil Dechert

**Others:** Linda Gray (Transportation Committee)

Daniel Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

**1. Approve Agenda** –Agenda was approved by **unanimous consent**.

**2. Comments from the Public** – None.

**3. Announcements & Correspondence** – None

**4. Minutes** – June 25, 2009, minutes were approved with no changes.

**5. Reports:**

- June 29 - UVLWV - Meeting for Town Officials: Getting Around the Region ....
  - This forum included discussion of regional transportation issues and related interaction between towns. Johnson and Gray attended along with the Town Manager and Sarah Reeves from Norwich.
- Inclusionary Zoning - Dechert reported that he had comments from developers and was waiting for more. Goodrich suggested a few more names of people to contact.

**6. Town Plan**

**Transportation** – The Commission reviewed and revised the Transportation Goals, Objectives and Actions accepting most of the changes and recommendations submitted by the Transportation Committee June 17, 2009. Linda Gray explained the thinking behind some of the Transportation Committee’s revisions including more emphasis on modes of transportation other than cars, and more action items.

Sections 1.5 and 1.15, both addressing pedestrian and bicycle ways and paths, were combined and edited. Section 1.6, Long Range Planning for transportation facilities, was moved ahead of Section 1.2 to give it more prominence.

The revised Transportation Goals, Objectives and Actions will be added to the Transportation Chapter and distributed by email, twitter, and the web ahead of the Transportation discussion at the July 23 PC meeting.

**Housing** – After reviewing an outline of the Housing Chapter prepared by Gray, members agreed on major goals and objectives. Dechert will edit the document into a working draft for further review. There was additional discussion of the obstacles to an effective program in Norwich to provide affordable and workforce housing. Major obstacles include high land costs and a lack of municipal wastewater facilities.

**7. Old/New Business –**

Gray and Johnson reiterated the importance of attendance at meetings and staying on schedule to complete the town plan.

**8. Comments from the Public – None.**

**9. Adjournment – 10:10 PM**

Phil Dechert

*APPROVED 7/23/09*

**Future Meetings:**

Thursday, July 23 at 7 PM – Regular Meeting – Transportation Review

Thursday, July 30 at 7 PM – Special Meeting – Natural & Historical Resources Review

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