

Andover Planning Board Meeting

March 26, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Ken Wells, Chair; Jacob Gilman, Vice-Chair; Roland Carter, Ex-Officio; Nancy Robart and Donna Duclos, Members; and Pat Moyer, Planning and Zoning Administrator

February 27th Meeting Minutes

The board did not approve the February 27th minutes previously because more details on the security cameras at the Transfer Station were needed. The security cameras were installed partially to help alleviate the security issues for incorrect and unauthorized disposal of items. After discussion, Gilman made a motion to amend the minutes. Carter seconded the motion. All in favor.

Master Plan Survey Results

Gilman reviewed the results from the Master Plan town wide survey with the board. About 12% of the town completed this survey (about 300 people). Most of the participants completed it during the week of Town Meeting.

Gilman shared that some of the results are very clear. For example, the town feels strongly against adding national retail chains, hotels, a landfill, and apartment complexes. Some of the other results were not as clear or there was a clear divide in the responses.

Gilman would like to go through the results more and break them down even further into other demographics, like age to see if that impacted the results at all. It was noted that not many people under the age of 34 participated in the survey. It was also noted that a majority of the responses were from East Andover. However, this doesn't take into account density.

The next steps with these results are to publish questions 1 through 10 and question 15 for the public. The questions where the results may be difficult to read will have a summary underneath to explain it to the reader. These questions will be put into one PDF and will be ready for distribution on April 10th. Gilman will work on teasing out some of the other results. The board discussed writing an article summarizing the results for the Beacon and adding a QR.

Camping Ordinance

The board continued the discussion about creating a town camping ordinance. The board referenced Salisbury, NH's current camping ordinance.

There is a concern for the approximately 24 temporary housing units turned into long-term housing, including storage containers, campers, etc... These units do not typically have State approved septic systems.

Carter suggested using camping permits with time limitations. Concerns were discussed regarding who would enforce these permits once expired.

The board discussed alternative housing that could be offered. There is a lack of affordable and available housing in Andover. In the Master Plan Survey, there were strong feelings about not building things like

apartments or mobile home parks. There is a lack of public transportation in the area. Community Action no longer offers transportation to Andover. There are limited job opportunities in town that do not require transportation.

The board discussed looking into a program with a local bank to provide some support for people struggling with housing. Some local banks have grants and funds that are specific for housing insecurities. There was some discussion of a company similar to Habitat-for-Humanity to build tiny houses in town.

The board agreed any support that can be given or provided should be done in a more welcoming setting like the Hub. People would be more likely to ask for help in the Hub versus Town Hall.

The board agreed they would hold off working further on a camping ordinance until after the April 13, 2024 All Boards Meeting. An ordinance would need to be approved by Town Meeting.

April 13th All Boards Meeting

The Board discussed the All Boards meeting set for Saturday, April 13th. The purpose of the meeting is to get all the town boards together to organize and communicate. Some clarification for what time the meeting starts is needed. Wells would like to add some things to the agenda if possible. Carter will talk with Town Administrator, Scott Hilliard to confirm the starting time.

Select Board Report

Carter shared Pecco Beaufays and Charles Stewart joined the select board for a total of five members. Dana Swenson is the Chair and Roland Carter is the Vice-Chair.

The Highway garage is almost complete. The town is expected to get some money back from that project.

Adjournment

Duclos made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. Carter seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectful submitted by

Shelby Perreault

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Secretary