

# **Town of Gorham**

## **Planning Board Minutes**

### **July 25, 2019**

**Members Present:** Wayne Flynn, Adam White (Alt Ex-Officio), Paul Robitaille, Dan Buteau and Earl McGillicuddy (Alt)

**Members Excused:** Abby Evankow, Brian Ruel, Jeff Schell, Michael Waddell and Dennis Arguin

**Members Absent:** Barney Valliere

**Members of the Public:** None

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Robitaille

**Appointments:** Chairman Robitaille appointed Earl McGillicuddy to act as a full voting member in place of Barney Valliere

**Accept & Approve Minutes of June 13, 2019** – On a motion from Wayne Flynn with a second from Paul Robitaille, the board voted to accept the minutes as presented with 3 abstentions.

**Code Enforcement Update** – None

**New Business** – The board reviewed an amendment to the contract for Tara Bamford. On a motion from Earl McGillicuddy with a second from Wayne Flynn, the board voted to amend Section 3 of the contract to read December 31, 2019.

#### **Work Session –**

The board met with Tara Bamford to continue updating the Master Plan. The board reviewed the transportation chapter.

- 1) Change Page 2 Para 3 to change Brook” to “B” after Pinkham. This should be only Pinkham B Road
- 2) Some of Tara’s recommendations included:
  - a) Continue to advocate for Gorham’s need for regular maintenance of US Routes 2 and 16.
  - b) Continue to add money each year to maintain municipal roads.
  - c) Use HEB’s Roadway Improvement plan and integrate that with a Capital Improvements plan.
  - d) Request that NH DOT and North Country Council evaluate crash data and identify potential improvements for 3 intersections in town.
  - e) Request that NHDOT provide signage warning drivers that US Routes 2 and 16 are shared with bicycles.
  - f) Continue to accommodate walking as a key mode of transportation in the downtown area.
  - g) Maintain and enhance existing sidewalks, pathways and connections to trails.
  - h) Require provisions for bike and pedestrian facilities in site plans and subdivisions when appropriate.

- i) Review options to improve the markings and warnings for crosswalks
- j) Consider possibilities for additional traffic calming through the Downtown area
- k) Implement traffic calming techniques on new roadway projects when appropriate and on existing roadways when possible.
- l) Ensure that proposed highway improvements are designed and scaled to fit the character of the community and nearby land uses.
- m) Implement access management techniques when appropriate as part of Site Plan Review and Subdivision reviews and coordinate these requirements with the NH DOT.
- n) Develop a corridor plan for the Berlin-Gorham Road that looks at future development potential.
- o) Consider allowing subdivisions on private roads with strong controls.
- p) Periodic review of the Tri-County Transit schedule and stops
- q) Ensure information about public transportation is available to residents and visitors
- r) Encourage rideshare services.
- s) Work with various agencies to develop grant proposals to replace high priority culverts.
- t) Implement recommendations from the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- u) Develop a plan for downtown signage for effective wayfinding to key locations.
- v) Conduct a parking study.
- w) Market the fact that Gorham boasts three state scenic byways.
- x) Continue to apply for funding for improvements to the town's transportation infrastructure.
- y) Promote mixed-use development in the Downtown area through planning and land use regulations

The board discussed and recommended changes to the chapter. Tara will make changes and incorporate them into the Master Plan.

**Public Comment** – None

**Next Meeting** – The board scheduled its next meeting for August 22, 2019. Tara will be ready for further discussions on Master Plan updates either September 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>

**Adjournment:** On a motion from Dan Buteau with a second from Wayne Flynn, the board voted to adjourn at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle M. Lutz  
July 26, 2019