

TOWN OF WESTERLY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting – August 23, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.
Development Services Conference Room – Town Hall

A. 5:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Gail Mallard, Chair
Joe MacAndrew, Vice Chair
Faith Bessette-Zito
James J. Federico, III
Nancy Richmond (entered 5:00 p.m.)

Members Absent: Stuart Blackburn
Gina T. Fuller

Liaisons Present: Catherine DeNoia (entered 5:06 p.m.)

Staff Present: Benjamin Delaney, Planning Associate

B. 5:00 P.M. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of August 9, 2017 with an amendment correcting the motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. Richmond was made by Mr. Federico and seconded by Mr. MacAndrew. The motion **CARRIED** by unanimous vote.

C. 5:01 P.M. DISUCSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Mallard stated the committee's next meeting would be September 6, 2017 and that the committee's work may conclude at a meeting on October 4, 2017.

D. 5:02 P.M. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PLAN

Chapter Six, Section Six – Appendix I

Mr. Delaney confirmed the text on public schools revised by Gina Fuller would be inserted into the Services and Facilities chapter of Appendix I in place of the existing corresponding text.

Mr. MacAndrew requested confirmation the Ward Building and Bradford Elementary School were both constructed in 1923.

Mr. Delaney confirmed for Ms. Mallard a pre-school program was operated by Westerly Public Schools at Babcock Hall and the Planning Office would seek text from the Westerly Education Center regarding its public education opportunities. He confirmed for Mr. MacAndrew all graphs and tables in Ms. Fuller's text would be revised to be consistent with the graph and table formatting used in the draft Comprehensive Plan. He confirmed for Ms. Mallard sentences citing a data source would be revised and include a hyperlink to the data source cited.

Mr. MacAndrew noted Bradford Elementary School had been renovated and requested the year of renovation be identified and cited. He requested "in any way" be removed from the sentence "Dunn's Corners and... in any way."

Ms. Mallard noted performance measures were not discussed in the revised text and requested some discussion be included on performance measures.

Ms. DeNoia suggested the School Department be requested to provide a short discussion on the performance of Westerly Public Schools' students.

Implementation Plan – Action Items

Ms. Mallard stated the numbers of goals, objectives/policies and implementation policies/general policies was relatively unchanged from 2010 Comprehensive Plan and that there was an increase of 46 action items in comparison to the 2010 Comprehensive Plan. She recommended the number of action items be decreased. She noted a schedule would also need to be completed identifying the responsible party/ies, the time-length to complete an action item and the additional resource(s) needed to complete an action item.

Discussion was held regarding the elimination and/or combining of Housing Opportunity actions.

The committee was in consensus to revise the action item “Review zoning and... housing in redevelopment areas...” as “Review and revise zoning and... housing downtown redevelopment areas as needed...” and to assign the action a mid-term time-length the Planning Office, Zoning Office, Planning Board and Zoning Board or Review as responsible parties and 100 hours of work.

The committee was in consensus to combine the action items “While continuing to...” and “Support efforts of...” as “Maintain existing qualified.... units and work with private, non-profit and/or public agencies... Westerly and regionally at the municipal, state and federal levels to secure funding to create other affordable housing opportunities.” and to assign the action an ongoing time-length the Planning Office and Westerly Housing Authority as responsible parties.

The committee was in consensus to revise the action item “Target neighborhoods for...” as “Identify neighborhoods with high densities of sub-standard housing for revitalization and rehabilitation efforts...implementation with affordable housing strategies.” and to assign the action a short-term and ongoing time-length and the Property Maintenance Code Official as the responsible party and 40 hours of work.

The committee was in consensus to revise the action item “Establish a comprehensive...” as “Establish a comprehensive... code violations for non-owner occupied rental housing to maintain and upgrade properties.” And assigned the action a short-term and ongoing time-length and the Planning Office and Director of Development Services as responsible parties.

The committee was in consensus to eliminate the action item “Create housing and... or district features.”

The committee was in consensus to assign the action “Coordinate with regional...support affordable housing.” an ongoing time-length, the Planning Office and the Director of Development Services as responsible parties and 100 hours of work annually.

(Mr. Federico exited at 7:00 p.m.)

The committee was in consensus to revise “Investigate management agreements...” as “Develop management agreements for multi-family housing... operated by non-profits.” and to assign the action a short-term time-length, the Westerly Affordable Housing Plan Committee as the responsible party and 40 hours of work.

The committee was in consensus to insert “Re-establish the Westerly Affordable Housing Plan Committee” as an action item and to assign the action a short-term time-length and the Town Council as the responsible party.

The committee was in consensus to assign the action item “Continue to promote... and private partnerships.” an ongoing time-length and no responsible party.

E. 7:05 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

F. 7:05 P.M. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. MacAndrew and seconded by Ms. Richmond. The motion
CARRIED by unanimous vote.

Minutes for the August 23, 2017 meeting submitted by:



Benjamin Delaney

Benjamin Delaney, Planning Associate

Approved by vote of the committee on **September 6, 2017**