

TOWN OF OXFORD

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall
486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298
Phone: (203) 828-6512 · Email: pandz@oxford-ct.gov
www.Oxford-CT.gov



PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Public Hearing Minutes

Tuesday, October 3, 2017 – 7:00 PM
Main Meeting Room
S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall

Proposed Updated Plan of Conservation and Development per CGS 8-23:

At least once every ten years, the commission shall prepare or amend and shall adopt a plan of conservation and development for the municipality.

Following adoption, the commission shall regularly review and maintain such plan.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Arnie Jensen opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL/SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Present: Pete Zbras, Tanya Carver, Jeff Luff, Arnie Jensen, Pat Cocchiarella, Todd Romagna and Bob Costigan.

Absent: Harold Cosgrove and John Kerwin.

Also Present: Jessica Pennell, Steven S. Macary, ZEO and Brian Miller, Town Planner.

Chairman Arnie Jensen seated Alternate Commissioner Pete Zbras.

Commission Secretary Pat Cocchiarella read the Public Hearing Legal Notice.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE CHAIRMAN & COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chairman Arnie Jensen referred to Brian Miller, Town Planner to present the draft update of the Plan of Conservation and Development (hereinafter referred to as the "POCD") to the Commission.

Brian Miller, Town Planner stated that it is an advisory document and the state requires each municipality to formulate and review the POCD within a 10-year period. He stated that it is meant to be a guide for municipal actions as well as state and federal grants. The POCD was done in 2007, and the Board of Selectmen appointed a committee to review the POCD and make changes and adjustments. He noted that he has been working with the committee and they went through a number of steps to update the POCD and the Commissioners have the draft which was a result of the committee meetings.

Brian Miller noted the following items as information or action the Commission considered during their review:

- conducted a limited survey
- evaluated the current Plan
- determined that overall strategies, objectives and goals are still applicable
- determined that some sections needed to be refined and updated
- discussed how Oxford no longer being a “rural” community
- identified that town has had significant growth since 2000
- considered implementing a “new” type of community for Oxford
- identified the continued importance of open space and received correspondence from the Conservation Commission
- considered the changes taking place along Route 67 and the impact of a mixed use development; and
- considered changes in the types of industrial businesses attracted to Oxford.

Brian Miller went on to explain some recommendations for the updated Plan:

- consideration of cluster developments
- plan for more development along the Route 67 Corridor
- reviewing the regulations for the industrial zones
- the possibility of establishing a greenway or pedestrian corridor and linkage with transit oriented facilities; and
- consider the impact of Oxford’s proximity to the I-84 Corridor.

Brian Miller noted that the analysis of the conformance of the Plan with the State and Regional Plan is not included with this draft.

Chairman Arnie Jensen explained the process for adopting the updated POCD.

Commission members shared their comments and concerns regarding the current draft of the POCD.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairman Arnie Jensen asked for any public comments.

The following members of the public spoke:

Bill Duesing, 593 Roosevelt Drive expressed his thoughts regarding open space, the possible addition of trails, farmland the non-motorized connections. He also noted that there may be state grants available to the Town for some of these items.

Suzanne Duesing, 593 Roosevelt Drive commended the Commission for the work they have done; she pointed out that the power of volunteers should not be underestimated or underappreciated.

There were no further public comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN & COMMISSION MEMBERS

The Commission and staff discussed how to proceed with the process, making any changes, and preparing a final draft to send to the Board of Selectmen and Council of Governments.

Brian Miller answered questions from Commissioners regarding the process.

Commissioner Tanya Carver, Chairman of the POCD Update Committee, also spoke regarding the process that would need to be followed for the Town to apply for grants while the Commission prepares the final draft. She noted that the current POCD expired as of October 1, 2017.

The Commission proceeded to have a lengthy discussion to determine how they would get their individual comments to Brian.

The discussion concluded with the decision that the Commission would have a Workshop to go through the document at length in order to expedite the process. Commission members scheduled a Workshop for October 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

RECESS/CLOSE

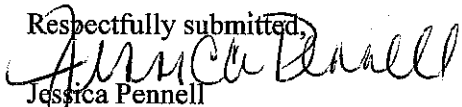
MOTION BY Commission Secretary Cocchiarella to close the Public Hearing at 7:52 PM.

Second by Commissioner Bob Costigan.

All (7) Ayes.

Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Pennell

Administrative Secretary

Planning & Zoning Commission

18 MAR - 1 PM 1:53
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
TOWN CLERK
Phyllis A. West