

DRAFT MINUTES
APPROVED ON: 4/15, 2024.

**TOWN OF WALTHAM
PLANNING COMMISSION AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD MINUTES
March 18, 2024
At Town Offices**

Members Present: Nancy Spencer, Chris Von Trapp, Dan Morris, Fran Colangelo, Jeff Glassberg (Chair), Lisa Sausville

Members Not Present: Mitch Jackman

Minute Taker: Steven True

Applicants Present: None

Public Present: Dan Mallach, Julia Cox, Jim Gish, Katie Raycroft-Meyer

1. **At 5:30 PM** meeting opened, and a quorum was established.
2. **Adjustments to and adoption of the agenda:** No adjustments; the agenda was adopted as drafted.
3. **Public Comment:** No public comment


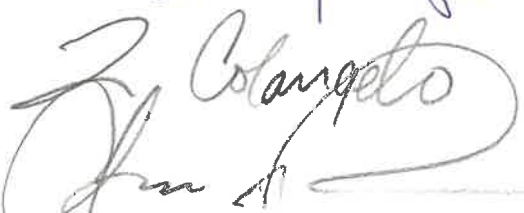
4. **5:35 P.M** PEL Study Land Use Visioning Workshops update presented by Dan Mallach of Dubois & King and Jim Gish, community liaison for VHB on behalf of VTrans.
 - a. Dan covered the following topics.
 - b. Review of survey results and general route preferences generated from the workshops
 - i. Recap and highlights of the public workshops held in neighboring communities
 - ii. Review of Land Use Visioning Scenario Maps
 - c. Dan and Jim answered questions from the public and from the planning commission members, discussing the following:
 - i. Dan Mallach indicated that there was a general consensus among neighboring towns to maintain agricultural, and open space and provide recreation opportunities
 - ii. Discussion ensued around the 'Green Route' proposal through parts of the Town. Julie Cox noted that the design produced a 'cliff-effect' from the grading plan, which was not conducive to residential development. Chris Von Trapp indicated strong opposition to the proposed route. Julie expressed numerous challenges to the green route, noting a lack of economic benefit ('pick-up') for Waltham from the proposal. Julie also noted that there was limited reference to the 'soundscape' the Green Route creates, indicating that this should be mapped.

- d. Dan Mallach discussed next steps would include route recommendations, and consider the feedback at large from affected municipalities.

5. 6:15 P.M. Planning Activities – Municipal Plan Update

- a. Katie Raycroft Meyer of Addison County Regional Planning Commission presented to the board:
 - i. Review of draft language for the Forest Block section, where the Board provided specific feedback and recommendations on the content. Katie asked for specific feedback on the names of the individual forest block area inventory.
 - ii. Jeffry Glassberg noted that the board should consider outreach efforts soon, and in advance of any public hearings necessary during the adoption process.
 - iii. The board will review the Housing Section next.
 - iv. Work to continue at the next regular meeting.
6. **Meeting Minutes:** On a motion by Dan Morris, with a second from Fran Colangelo, the February 18, 2024, minutes were unanimously approved and signed.
7. **Energy Plan:** The board considered next steps in the MERP grant process. Nancy volunteered to complete the MERP application, with assistance from the Zoning Administrator.
8. Confirmation of next meetings and events of interest. Next meeting is April 15, 2024.

9. **MOTION:** to adjourn was made by Lisa Sausville and seconded by Chris Von Trapp, at 7:45 PM.


Nancy Sancer

Fran Colangelo

