

FINAL

**PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS– CITY HALL &
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM LebanonNH.gov/LIVE
7:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Colin Smith (Chair); Erling Heistad (City Council); Haynes Bunn; Ben Swanson (Alt); Sean Dittrich; Jared Toon (Alt); Tim Gilbert; Marie McCormick [7:15pm]

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Sykes (City Council, Alt); Clifton Below (Alt)

STAFF PRESENT: Catheryn Hembree (Associate Planner)

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 6, 2024

A MOTION was made by Mr. Heistad to approve the meeting minutes of August 6, 2024, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Bunn.

**The vote on the MOTION was approved (3-0-2).*

3) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Brandon Hill, Oak Ridge neighborhood, stated that a couple of months ago a capital investment projects presentation before the Planning Board mentioned that one of the proposed projects was a connector road between Sachem Village and DHMC. It was noted that the connector road had the support of this Committee, and he would like to know if this was an accurate representation. He noted that the proposed route has a 10% grade. This does not seem bike/ped friendly. The connector road is proposed to be 22' wide with an additional 10' dedicated to bike/ped users. This would require approximately 1.6 hectares of land.

Chair Smith stated that in terms of the Bike Ped Plan, the idea of connecting Sachem Village and DHMC utilizing a path is important. The Committee has not reviewed a detailed alignment or layout for this route though. Mr. Dittrich stated that he believes this was described as some paving along the preexisting powerline segment. Ms. Hembree noted that the design plans have never been shown to this Committee.

Mr. Hill noted that he believes this plan will be presented at the City Council meeting on the 18th. Chair Smith stated that the Committee has only discussed a trail in this area, so complete Committee support for anything else may not be entirely correct.

Marie McCormack entered the meeting at 7:15pm.

The Committee agreed to address this further at its next meeting.

5) OTHER BUSINESS – *The Committee addressed this agenda item at this time.*

A. Review and Comment on Planning Board Application: Brickyard One Nominee Trust, 174 Hanover Street (Tax Map 48, Lot 4), 0 Hanover Street (Tax Map 48, Lot 2), 0 Hanover Street (Tax Map 48, Lot 1), and 238 Hanover Street (Tax Map 63, Lot 1), zoned R-1, R-O-1, R-3 & RL-3: Request for Site Plan Review and a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Sections 308.2, 310.2, 311A.2, and 501.2 of the Zoning Ordinance for a proposed 474-unit multi-family Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) totaling +/- 731,600 sq. ft. in size, consisting of 11 buildings together with parking, utilities, landscaping, access, and other related site improvements. Applicant also requests a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Section 308.4 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow an increase in the maximum permitted building height from 45 ft. to 55 ft. **PB2024-22-CUPSPR**

Ms. Hembree stated that the Planning Board is still in negotiations on this project. The applicant has submitted a new traffic study, but it did not change much from the original. It was noted that the sight lines at Old Etna Road will be difficult, and this should be teed up as much as possible. This could also be considered for an all-way stop. There was also concern expressed regarding the Evans Drive and Hanover Street intersection. There should be flashing beacons or a pedestrian controlled light at this intersection.

Ms. Bunn asked about the time period for the pedestrian counts that were taken. Ms. Hembree agreed and stated that she asked for the counts to be completed at a more appropriate time.

The Committee discussed recommendation items to send along including extending the sidewalk along the north side of the property, teeing up the Etna Road intersection and making it an all-way stop, including pedestrian controls at the Evans Drive/Hanover Street intersection, and allowing for updated pedestrian counts.

Mr. Dittrich stated that he believes it will be important to have traffic stop at the Evans Street intersection. A multiuse path along one quiet section of Hanover Street could be utilized before the school property starts. The transition into the existing network may be more dangerous, if pushed away from where it is now.

B. Review and Comment on Planning Board Application: The Muse Lebanon, LLC (applicant), City of Lebanon (property owner), 20 Spencer Street (Tax Map 92, Lot 31), zoned LD: Request for Site Plan Review for a proposed +/-76,064 sq. ft. multi-family building with 80 affordable housing units, together with parking, utilities, landscaping, access, and other related site improvements. Applicant also requests a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Article III, Section 307.6.B.2 of the Zoning Ordinance to waive the requirement to reserve space within the street level story of the building for non-residential uses. **PB2024-36-SPR**

The Committee discussed that this plan shows indoor bike storage on the ground floor. The plan also shows a playground to be built near the rail trail. Ms. McCormack expressed concern regarding the intersection at Spencer Street where there used to be a stop sign and is no longer.

The Committee discussed recommendation items such as flashing beacon at the crosswalk, three way stop at Campbell/Spencer/Parkhurst streets, bring back the stop sign at Spencer, considerations at the rail trail such as speed tables, blinking lights, or raised crossings, and a landscape plan for the development.

C. Middle School Traffic Flow Discussion

Ms. McCormick explained that there has been an ongoing safety issue along Route 4 during drop off and pick up times for the Middle School. The idea to change the movement of cars on the Middle School site seems too complex at this time, so the proposal is to reroute the cars to surrounding streets. School started last Thursday, and it is unclear how this change is working. There is a proposal to make a paved shoulder along Prospect Street. There was a question raised as to why there isn't a sidewalk along Prospect Street

Ext. Concern was expressed regarding the sight distance along Laplante Road. Mr. Heistad suggested a staggered school start in order to spread out the traffic issues.

There was discussion that the short area of paved shoulder may not make the route safe for middle schoolers to travel, depending on the time of day. This could be a good location for an actual sidewalk.

The Committee discussed recommendation items such as a traffic study to determine solutions for the onsite queuing, additional sidewalks, and additional signage indicating pedestrian usage.

4) STUDY ITEMS

- A. Review Complete Streets Policy
 - i. Street type definitions
 - ii. Characteristics needed to be a complete street

The Committee agreed to address this topic at a future meeting.

- B. Updates from Other Boards
 - Planning & Development
 - Planning Board
 - City Council
 - Police Reports
 - Mascoma River Greenway Coalition
 - Class VI Roads
 - Communications Plan

This item was not addressed at this time.

6) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

7) ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Heistad to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Dittrich.

****The vote on the MOTION was approved (6-0).***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude, Recording Secretary