

# WEBSTER PLANNING BOARD

## MAY 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes



The Webster Planning Board met on May 19, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Sara Stahlman called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tonya Basse, Brandon Core, Brandon McDevitt, Rachael Pollack, Jenny Reisinger, Sara Stahlman, Leigh Anne Young

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Will Whitfield

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None

Brandon McDevitt made a motion to recess the meeting and reconvene at the ball field adjacent to the Old Webster Rock School, Tonya Basse seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sara Stahlman reconvened the meeting at the ball field after a brief recess. Sara had members read the ethics statement. No conflicts were expressed.

### *General meeting*

#### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**

The meeting agenda and April 21, 2022 meeting minutes were reviewed.

**MOTION:** Brandon Core motioned to approve the agenda, Brandon McDevitt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Jenny Reisinger motioned to approve the April 21, 2022 meeting minutes, Tonya Basse seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Informal comments by the public:** None

#### **Administrative Reports:**

**Chair Report:** Sara Stahlman reported her efforts on researching effective speed control measures. Following a lengthy discussion of the speed issues in Webster and various options for traffic calming measures, including discussion of a possible community survey, next steps would include asking the Town Board for direction on how to provide the feedback to the appropriate officials.

#### **Planning Board Members' Reports:**

Rachael Pollack provided an update on various grant opportunities and proposed an annual calendar of deadlines that the Planning Board can reference next year to apply for various grants. A question for the Town Board would be when this comes available, can we apply (or on behalf of Parks and

Recreation Department and/or Jackson County Public Schools)? What are we as a Planning Board allowed to do, such as reaching out to the Department of Transportation?

Brandon Core reported on Webster Historical Society and Jackson County Historic Preservation Commission and outlined the outcomes of the meetings he recently had with each.

Tonya Basse reported on park options and shared information and photos of the White Deer Park in Garner, NC she recently visited. Discussion among members included perhaps taking the approach of a nature center versus just a park and inclusion of education pieces that would allow the County Board of Education to get involved.

Leigh Anne Young reported the allocation of \$30,000 of covid funding was rerouted to create a pavilion near the softball field as long as the county matched it. Mayor Rodes has since met with Don Adams and Rusty Ellis regarding next steps and partnership opportunities.

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### *OLD BUSINESS*

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#### **1. Stand-Alone Ordinance Review**

The board received copies of the Animal Control and Noise Ordinances for review. Board members will bring any suggestions for changes in wording or content to the next meeting.

#### **2. Funding Prioritization**

Brandon Core had encouraged the board to consider looking into additional community space options, like Southwest Child Development Center which is housed in the Old Rock School. There is a potential to encourage a mutually beneficial partnership. Sara Stahlman shared that previous inquiries indicated liability issues in allowing the public to utilize the center's playground equipment.

Rachel Pollack reminded us that the Town may run into difficulty being competitive for grants without a leasing agreement. Brandon McDevitt suggested that perhaps the Town should purchase its own land to create a community space and avoid all the challenges with lack of ownership.

Project priorities include: creation of a community social space and public safety. Leigh Anne Young mentioned public art as a possible future project idea. Both the roundabout and the side of the Post Office could provide good opportunities.

#### **3. Traffic Calming**

Traffic speed continues to be a safety concern among board members. Sara Stahlman suggested posting signage – either permanent or temporary – that reminds drivers to please drive carefully and be mindful of families within this historic community. Leigh Anne Young will follow up with town board about meeting with Sheriff's deputies that patrol Webster to share community concerns.

Tonya Basse mentioned providing more services for pedestrians and their pets and that a dispenser for doggy bags and a trash can would be appreciated.

Sara Stahlman asked if the board might be granted permission to pursue some of these grant opportunities by reaching out to the Department of Transportation and Southwest Child Development Center. Leigh Anne Young will relay this request to the Town Board.

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### *NEW BUSINESS*

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**1. Community Picnic/Potluck/Supper**

Sara Stahlman suggested that we form a subcommittee to handle planning details more efficiently. September and January were suggested as options preferable to the summer. Jenny Reisinger and Leigh Anne Young both volunteered to join the subcommittee. Will reach out to Webster Historical Society for input. Leigh Anne Young will inquire as to the budget for the event.

**2. Short Term Rentals**

The board tabled short term rentals to the next meeting

**3. Food at Upcoming Meetings**

Brandon McDevitt offered to bring food to the next meeting in June.

**4. Summer Meeting Dates**

The board will meet on June 16 at Town Hall, and then relocate to the greenspace by the Old Rock School. Due to lack of quorum, the Planning Board will not meet in July, but plans to meet again August 18.

**MOTION:** Tonya Basse made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Brandon McDevitt seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

- All Board members will review Animal Control and Noise Control Ordinances and note any necessary changes.
- Leigh Anne Young will inquire with Town Board about Planning Board's ability to reach out to potential project partners, such as DOT or Southwest Child Development Center.
- Leigh Anne Young will relay traffic safety issues to the Town Board and ask about holding a meeting with Sheriff's deputies to share community concerns.

- Jenny Reisinger and Leigh Anne Young will meet separately to discuss plans for a fall or winter community picnic. Will inquire if the Webster Historical Society would like to be involved.
- June meeting to be held in person. No July meeting due to lack of quorum.

**NEXT MEETING: The Planning Board will meet on June 16, 2022, at the Webster Town Hall prior to recessing to the ball field/park area next to the Old Webster Rock School.**

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Brandon Core, Secretary, Planning Board, Town of Webster