

Present: Sandy Hislop, Chair, Jack Pare, Chris Cross, Bob Simms and Gail Klanchesser. Denis Hebert and Tom Morgan, Town Planner were at Selectmen's meeting, so would be about 15 minutes late.

Call to Order: Chair called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Minutes: Klanchesser made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 1 meeting; Pare seconded, motion carried. Cross moved that minutes of the March 8 meeting be reviewed at our next meeting; Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried. While waiting for other two Board members, Chair had Plans that needed to be signed by Board members, so that was done during interval.

Correspondence: Minutes of March 8, Legal Notice from Newmarket Planning Board regarding major subdivision and sketch from Erstad-Bittle regarding expansion of Crossings at Fox Run.

Public Hearings:

Proposal by Jones Lang Lasalle to expand the Crossings at Fox Run. Representatives present, John Schupp, Developer, Jones Lang Lasalle; Mark Mastroianni, Engineer, Carter & Burgess; Giles Ham, Principal, Vanesse & Associates; Bill Scott, Attorney, Boynton & Waldron; Dave DePalma, General Manager, Fox Run/Crossing; Dennis Kost, Operations Manager, Fox Run/Crossings; Roy Greenleaf, Newington Fire Chief and Brad Loomis, Newington Police Chief.

John Schupp stated that expansion of two sections was 21,000 sq. ft., which is 2/10 of 1% increase in size. 14,000 sq. Ft. would be used for Dick's Sporting. Mastroianni stated that there had been conversation with the Fire Chief and as a result, a fire hydrant had been added and one had been relocated. Building elevation, front and rear designs were done by Omega and are consistent with other buildings in the area. They have looked at loading area, trucks will be able to access with both tenants. Fire Chief is satisfied with curb opening which is 100 ft. Wide to allow for fire trucks. There was discussion about site lighting, it does not affect other lighting. Applicant has talked with Coast Bus. Brad Nickles has sent his approval. Bev Cray of Wildcat Transit, said they just need to be able to have two buses at one time. Brad wanted a sign to show entrance for delivery versus bus access. There was a lot of discussion regarding a connector between the malls and the safety of cinema goers. Applicant had looked at three areas. Thinks connector is a good idea, how do you do it? Morgan stated he had spoken to Wayne Worth who was open to connector road, but would want to see it in the right place. He felt there would be two criteria, one to keep traffic slow and two not to spend a lot of money. Simms questioned how much of the year this was a problem? Thanksgiving and Christmas? He didn't see connector road solving the problem. Police Chief did not feel another connector road was a good idea. Fire Chief wouldn't like to see a connector road going through the buildings that house rehab and heart health. Felt pedestrians would be in jeopardy. Chair asked for any other comments. Cross passed out a paper with his ideas. After discussion, Police Chief said he didn't see value at this time. Hebert recommended a formal foot path from Joanne's to the Crossings. Felt members have been looking at a connector for some time and it was good to have input.

Formalizing would eliminate hang outs on informal paths. Both Chiefs agreed. It might encourage more people to use the foot path if it was lit and was a formal pathway. Chair asked if everyone was willing to look into this prospect and all agreed. Public Hearing closed to public. Hebert moved to accept proposal as submitted to the Board with the addition of two illuminated, paved walk ways to be established between the two malls. Walk ways must meet ADA requirements. Exact location shall be determined and presented for planning board approval. Cross seconded.

Dennis Kost expressed concern regarding maintenance. Once approved, the Mall would be responsible. If someone uses the informal walk ways now and they fall, it's the person's responsibility. If someone falls, who is responsible? Erstad-Biddle was committed to one walk way, they are bonded and it would be behind the Cinema where the pathway is now. Discussion closed, motion carried. Board signed Plan.

Master Plan: Historic Resources

This part of the plan had been scheduled for the March 1 meeting, there being no quorum it was scheduled for this meeting. Pare stated this was not the version the Historic Resources Committee was working with. They are not ready to give to the Planning Board. Morgan suggested Board plan to work on revision in April. Next meeting will be the 1st Monday in April with a working meeting on April 26.

Old Business: There was discussion regarding ICR. Cross stated a letter had been sent regarding using rail service for the wood chip plant. Morgan felt Portsmouth has been very cooperative, Hebert agreed. They have no intention of extending ICR, too many issues, feel railroad would be best solution. There was a lot of discussion regarding ICR and Gosling Road. Morgan said we need to work on Transportation section of Master Plan to look at traffic solutions for the Mall and other issues. Discussion regarding dialogue with Schiller regarding upgrade to Gosling Road and completion of Shattuck Way. Suggested Board discuss on April 5 meeting what Board wants to propose to Portsmouth. There being no other business, Pare moved and Klanchesser seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Sweeney
Secretary