



GEORGIA VERMONT

Planning Commission Meeting Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:30 PM Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom Minutes

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWLzVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | Passcode: 5243524

Dial by your Location: 1 929 205 6099 (New York)

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

BOARD PRESENT

Chair Suzanna Brown

Charles Cross

Heather Dunsmore

Vice Chair Jared Waite

Tony Heinlein

STAFF PRESENT

Doug Bergstrom, Zoning Administrator

Kollene Caspers, Zoning Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

Emily Johnson

2. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

3. DISCUSSION

A. Town Plan Analysis, by Section

- Michael Allen is working on the new Town Plan updates and will be present at the next meeting to share the updated section III with the Planning Commission. He is also looking to schedule a meeting with Northwest Regional Planning to get the needed data to add to the Town Plan.
- S. Brown provided a Highway & Public Works handout for the Planning Commission. S. Brown made a few edits and update with the Commission members to submit to ReGrowth.
- J. Waite will get the edits to his latest documents to submit to ReGrowth.

- C. Cross will send the updates he has made to the library documents to be sent to ReGrowth.
- H. Dunsmore has sent the updates to her sections to D. Bergstrom, who has sent everything to ReGrowth for inclusion in the new Town Plan.
- S. Brown found all of the links to the documents she wanted to add to the Town Plan, has sent that off to ReGrowth. She will continue to work on the History of Georgia section to be added to the Town Plan.
- S. Brown asked H. Dunsmore to pare down the Senior services section of the Town plan, in terms of bussing for Senior Care.

B. Bike and Pedestrian Path Grant

- VTrans Federal Aid Bicycle & Pedestrian Path Grant Program Guide, the grant is due on June 14, 2024. This grant aims to make transportation easier for people and connect to area businesses. Georgia is more likely to have money allocated for the Grant if we can connect identified high density neighborhoods to businesses and services via a new path (for example, Ballard Road at Lauras Woods to the Medical facility, Dollar General, Georgia Market, Creemee stand and the Park & Ride Bus Station at Skunk Hill Road.
- This grant will only fund one side of the road. The Planning Commission will have to determine which side of Ballard Road will be easier to put install the path, in consideration of trees and both above and below ground utility lines.
- In addition to current neighbors, the grant application can also mention the proposed multi-use subdivisions coming from two different projects, as additional future housing, businesses and also new sidewalks to connect to the path.
- Planning Commission went through the Project Criteria to apply for the grant, would like to address community needs in the application.
- The Planning Commission will apply for a sidewalk grant, and not for the shared use path; this will allow most children to still use the path for bikes but will dissuade adult bikers from using the path. This will render more pedestrian use for the new sidewalks.
- Town of Georgia will have to update the current Sidewalk Policy; and refer to the Georgia South Village Bicycle and Pedestrian Feasibility Study from 2012. Not much has changed since 2012, but for the paving costs.
- Will need to get an estimate from a local engineer before we can get quotes on the paving for the grant, and the engineer's estimate for the project is needed before the June 14th deadline. The Zoning office will reach out to local engineers.
- There is an informational meeting via Zoom for the grant on May 15, 2024 at 10am- 11:30 a.m.
- The Planning Commission will need to go to the Selectboard for the 20% of funds needed to complete the sidewalk project. The next Selectboard meeting will be on May 13th, followed by the next planning meeting on May 14th.
- D. Bergstrom will work with the Public Works Director to get more information on a potential paving estimate.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Planning Meeting Minutes: April 9, 2024

Motion to approve with minor changes.

Motion made by Cross, Seconded by Vice Chair Waite.
Voting Yea: Chair Brown, Cross, Dunsmore, Vice Chair Waite, Heinlein

5. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

A. Planning Meeting: May 14, 2024

- Michael Allen, ReGrowth with Town Plan draft updates
- Town Plan Analysis, by Section
- Bike and Pedestrian Path Grant

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. DELIBERATIONS

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:55p.m.

Motion made by Cross, Seconded by Vice Chair Waite.

Voting Yea: Chair Brown, Cross, Dunsmore, Vice Chair Waite, Heinlein

Posted to the Town website

Signed: Kollene Caspers, Zoning Clerk, Planning Clerk

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