



# Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission

## Town Office & Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 5th, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann (Chair), Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Andrew Seward, Brigid Sullivan

Also Present: Faith Tempest (Clerk), David Johnson, Stephen Michel

1. Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. Changes to agenda: None
3. Unfinished business:
  - a. Town Plan: Chair presented early drafts of three of the maps agreed at the last meeting. The Transportation map has been agreed with Regional Transportation Planner Ethan Pepin. It represents four classes of roads, trails and public bus stops. Chair suggested adding parking lots, e.g. at Harry's, parking areas at trailheads and VAST trails. Commissioner Andrew Seward suggested also having parking on the recreation maps. Commissioner Sullivan asked for better distinction between the different categories of roads /trails to make the map clearer and suggested that National and State Forest highways could be presented using the same legend. Chair agreed to adjust the colors, and will check how State maps represent these different highways. Chair also noted that there may be some discrepancies in the map based on more recent adjustments to Town highways, and whether some roads are passable in practice.  
Recreation map: this map shows public access land – Federal, State, Private (conserved) or Town land – and VAST trails and the Catamount trail and associated parking. Chair noted that District Forest Ranger has still not come back regarding improved parking on Greendale Road. Chair also mentioned that the Forest Service will work on new trails if there is a responsible party to deal with any questions or issues – it may be possible to develop some additional trails if such a party can be identified. Chair noted that no bicycle trails are marked. It is not clear where such trails run but he will contact John Seward and Jim Chester to ask them. Steve Howlett (VAST) is interested in identifying the possibility of all-season trails in its network. There may not be time to identify all of these trails in time for the completion of the Town Plan. VAST is also interested in funding the Station Road bridge which may be something that could be done in partnership. Landforms and elevation map: This shows prime soils,

Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission

topography and contours. The higher elevations tend to coincide with already conserved land. Higher elevations (above 2500 feet) trigger Act 250. Areas of prime soils tend to be on Shunpike Road and Rte 155 – these are mainly taken into consideration for avoiding solar siting. Chair will work on the additional maps for the regular meeting.

4. Public comments: None
5. Upcoming meetings: 19<sup>th</sup> July Regular PC meeting.
6. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

For the Commission,

Faith Tempest (Clerk)

In draft form until approved on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023