

Worcester Planning Commission
MINUTES
August 28, 2025, 6:30pm
Town Hall and ZOOM

Attending: Chani Waterhouse, Will Baker, Bill Arrand, Amy Thornton, Toni Kaeding

Housekeeping

- Chani called the meeting to order at 6:37pm
- Chani led roundtable discussion of the question, "Describe something about Worcester that "fills your cup"."
- Toni moved to accept Minutes of 7.29.25 as written. Amy seconded and motion was approved unanimously.

Bylaws – Worcester Planning Commission (WPC)

Final review of proposed changes to Bylaws. Proposed changes all minor and include updated meeting schedule, specific citations of the law describing Planning Commission authority and clarification of language. Toni moved to approve as amended, Bill seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Land Use

Toni described the history of land use in Worcester that influenced Part 9 Land Use Planning of the Town Plan. A recurring theme was a long-standing and generalized citizen disdain for external control of local issues. It was noted that external control aimed at *protection* of Worcester's resources was generally more acceptable than external control aimed at *developing* Worcester's resources.

Next steps

A wide-ranging discussion about the possible effects (both positive and negative) of Act 181 in preparation for meeting with CVRPC on Sept 24 to outline local action. Purpose of Sept 24 meeting is to hear from CVRPC about implementation plans and Worcester's role.

ACTION: Forward questions about Act 181 to Chani prior to Sept 24.

Will moved to adjourn, Amy seconded and motion approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Next meeting: Sept 24, 2025 with CVRPC

Toni Kaeding
Secretary