

Worcester Planning Commission
MINUTES
April 13, 2026, 6:30pm
Town Hall

Attending: Chani Waterhouse, Rebecca Heintz, Will Baker, Bill Arrand, Toni Kaeding

Housekeeping

- Chani called the meeting to order at 6:37pm
- Chani prompted a roundtable share of “favorite sign of spring”
- Will moved to accept the minutes of 3.12.26 as written. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

Updates

Flood Safety Act - Act 121 seeks to strengthen river corridor protection. We currently have interim bylaws enacted in 2010. On Thur May 21, Lincoln Frasca from CVRPC will provide Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) update as it relates to flooding.

Vt Council on Rural Development – planned visit pending. No further information.

Solar Pavilion – Toni reported that plans are moving forward for construction of a solar pavilion on Ladd Field. Project led by Selectboard and will be funded solely by grants, donations, and volunteer work. No citizen tax money will be used for this project. Two grant requests (AARP and T-Mobile) have been submitted. To date, neighbors have offered design work, lumber, site preparation and discounted rates for other work. Yestermorrow, a timber-frame/design school will provide construction at a discounted rate as part of their curriculum. Donations of all sizes very welcome.

Town Plan Update – deferred to next meeting

Discussion Items

Annual Calendar Actions

- April – post area business directory on FPF (Will)
- May – inform Worcester residents of Efficiency Vermont benefits (Chani)

Act 181 – Group discussed the possible impact of bill on Worcester residents – particularly those currently living in areas proposed as “Tier 3” or affected by the “road rule”. Those two items in the bill have generated significant pushback from Vermonters and may trigger a “pause” on forward movement at this time. Group agreed that a heads-up/informational letter to affected households is good idea but will defer till language of bill is clarified.

Adjourn

Chani moved to adjourn, Toni seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm

Next meeting: May 21, 6:30pm (in person), Town Office Building

Agenda will include:

- Lincoln Frasca zooming from CVRPC re: ERAF
- Town Plan update
- Act 181
- Senate bill S325
- Solar Pavilion update