NP&EDC
NANTUCKET PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission DRAFT Minutes
Hybrid Participation via Zoom Webinar & Meeting Trailer, Room A, 131 Pleasant St, Nantucket, MA 02554
August 26, 2024 @ 5:00PM

Commissioners: Chair Barry Rector, Vice-Chair Nat Lowell, Brook Mohr, Bert Johnson, Abby De Molina, Joseph Topham, Dave Iverson, John Kitchener, Wendy Hudson, Kristina Jelleme, and Michael Misurelli

Staff: Leslie Snell, Director of Planning, Megan Trudel, Senior Planner, Michael Burns, Transportation Program Manager, Nicky Sheriff, Land Use Specialist (Absent), and Catherine Ancero, Administrative Specialist

NP & EDC DRAFT MINTUES 08-26-2024

I. Call to Order:
Chair Rector called the meeting to order at 5:02pm. Chair Rector welcomed two new members Mike Misurelli from ConCom and Brook Mohr from Select Board.

II. Establishment of Quorum:

In Attendance:

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
Barry Rector *Aye*

Staff:
Michael Burns, Transportation Program Manager *Aye (remote participation)*
Megan Trudel, Senior Planner *Aye*
Leslie Snell, Director of Planning *Aye*

III. Approval of Agenda:
Motion/Vote: Mr. Kitchener made a motion to approve the agenda and the motion was duly seconded by Mr. Lowell and the motion was carried unanimously.

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
Barry Rector *Aye*

IV. Public Comment for items not included on the agenda:
None

V. Minutes

- **July 22, 2024**

Motion/Vote: Mr. Topham made a motion to approve the June 24th set of minutes as drafted and the motion was duly seconded by Vice-Chair Lowell and the motion was carried unanimously.

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
Barry Rector *Aye*

VI. Area Plans, Acceptance of Plan and Appointments

A. Monomoy Area Plan, acceptance of plan
The Monomoy Area Plan was presented for acceptance. The Commission acknowledges the hard work and dedication that went into creating the plan over the past two and half years with over 800 volunteer hours. The plan is to preserve and enhance the quality of life in the Monomoy Area and serves as model for future community planning efforts across the island. Francy Nester and Matt Westfall, thanked the Commission for their efforts and offered their continued assistance to other workgroups working on similar plans.

Motion/Vote: Mr. Kitchener made a motion to approve and accept the Monomoy Area Plan as written and the motion was duly seconded by Ms. Mohr and the motion was carried unanimously.

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*

Joseph Topham *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Chair Barry Rector *Aye*

B. **Madaket Area Plan, acceptance of workgroup member appointment, John Hernandez**
Discussion: The Commission members discussed appointing John Patrick Hernandez (JP) as a workgroup member for the Madaket Area Plan. Mr. Hernandez introduced himself. Mr. Hernandez stated that he felt like a "freeloader" and expressed eagerness to start giving back to the Town.

Motion/Vote: Mr. Iverson made a motion to accept JP Hernandez as a member of the Madaket Area Plan work group. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Kitchener and the motion was unanimously.

<u>Vote taken by Roll Call:</u>
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Chair Barry Rector *Aye*

C. **Town Area Plan, possible Commission member appointment**
The Commission members discussed whether to appoint a new member to the group due to the departure of Mary Longacre, a member of the Commission. Mrs. Snell and Chair Rector met with Henry Terry who stated that the plan was nearing completion with an expected review by the end of the year. Mrs. Snell suggested that adding a new member at this late stage might not be the best use of time. The Commission agreed to not appoint a new member unless the situation changed. No official vote was taken.

VII. <u>Transportation Action/Discussion Items:</u>

A. **FFY 2025 3C Contract – approve agreement funding the FFY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program**
Discussion: Mr. Burns presented the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025 3C contract for approval. The contract is an agreement with MassDOT to fund the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2025. The total contract amount is $33,753, with a term starting on October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025. Mr. Burns asked the Commission to authorize the Director of Planning to sign and execute the contract.

Motion/Vote: Mr. Iverson made a motion to authorize the Director of Planning to sign and execute the FFY 2025 3C Contract. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Topham and the motion was carried unanimously.

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Chair Barry Rector *Aye*

B. Pleasant Street Complete Streets Project – Nantucket Historical Commission recommendations

The Commission members discussing specific recommendations from the Historic Commission. The Commission members reviewed a letter from Sam Felin asking to consider selecting an alternative for the street's design. The section of the roadway being reviewed was between Five Corners and William Street. The Historic Commission provided three options. Option one – retain two-way traffic on Pleasant Street and align 5-foot sidewalk behind the existing tree line and retain the current trees; Option two – Convert Pleasant Street to one-way traffic and repurpose the southbound lane for a multi-use path, a concept previously discussed; and Option three – keep two-way traffic and replant a tree line, with a narrow sidewalk. The Commission members wanted to respect input from local residents especially from the Felin family who supported a pilot study of the one-way option. Concerns were raised regarding the vegetation overgrowth narrowing the road and obstructing visibility. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) supports Option 2. The Commission overall recommendation was to proceed with Option 2.

Motion/Vote: Ms. Mohr made a motion that they recommend to the Select Board to schedule a pilot study to implement a one-way traffic flow on Pleasant Street with a dedicated bike and pedestrian lane for a sufficient period to assess its impact on traffic and determine if Option 2 is viable. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Lowell and the motion was carried unanimously.

Vote taken by Roll Call:
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Chair Barry Rector *Aye*

C. Safe Streets and Roads for All – update on high crash locations and potential solutions

Discussion: Mr. Burns briefly gave an update on high crash locations and potential solutions and for safer roads. The Commission members reviewed a technical memorandum identifying the island's most dangerous intersections and roadways. Most of the accidents happen in the summer, especially in Town during the day. Sever crashes often involve single vehicles while bike and pedestrian accidents, a smaller percentage and result in more injuries. The Milestone Rotary was identified as the most dangerous intersection. Sparks Avenue near the Stop and Shop and Old South Road were flagged for frequent crashes. Staff suggested improvements of reconstructing the Milestone Rotary and adding roundabouts at other high-risk intersections. There will be a joint meeting with the Select Board, needed to gain support for these changes.

D. Kei-class mini trucks and vans cannot be registered by the Registry of Motor Vehicles
Discussion: The Registry of Motor Vehicles has stopped registering certain small Kia trucks and vans due to that they do not meet safety standards. It was suggested to classify them as low-speed vehicles with speed restrictions, making sure they operate under 25 miles per hour and stay off high-speed road. Mr. Burns recommend that staff draft a letter for the Chair's signature to the Registry of Motor Vehicles requesting Kei-class mini trucks and vans be registered as low-speed vehicles if meet standards.

VIII. <u>Other Action/Discussion Items:</u>

A. Enabling Legislation Discussion and Workgroup Update
Discussion: The legislation has evolved since 1973 with changes primarily in the composition of the Municipal Services Commission. There were two major issues, whether to include a voting member from the Historical Commission and how to handle elected versus appointed At-Large members. The Commission members debated. Mr. Kitchener and Ms. De Molina both felt after watching a previous meeting, that the meeting didn't feel like a true negotiation, there was little interest in finding middle ground. Ms. De Molina stated that the Commission worked hard on their proposal, and it was quickly dismissed and there seemed to be no clear path to compromise. Mr. Kitchener voiced concerns about the balance between the Planning Board and commission roles. There was confusion around the Certified Local Government (CLG) process and Mrs. Snell was asked to explain. Mrs. Snell explains that the CLG was established locally and involves both the Historic District Commission (HDC) and the Historic Commission. The CLG allows the Town to apply for Federal historic preservation grants and has a role in nominating properties for the National Register. Ms. De Molina stated that the CGL meets at least once a year, follows procedural rules and has a website. Some Commissioners questioned the need for a CLG representative in certain roles since Holly Backus, the Town's Preservation Planner is already deeply involved in historic preservation issues and could serve as a central figure in communicating with the Commission. The Commission members had a lengthy discussion regarding on how to move forward with a proposed article for an upcoming Town Meeting, scheduled in about three weeks. There was debate whether there was enough time to make further changes and compromises to the article. Some Commission members expressed concerns that there isn't enough time to properly address all potential changes before the deadline. The Commission members decided to accept the Planning Board's and Financial Committee's recommendation to "not adopt" the article for now, while continuing to work on refining the issues for a future Town Meeting.

Motion/Vote: Ms. Mohr made a motion that NP&EDC not to adopt Article 16. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Kitchener and the motion was carried 10-1 with Ms. Jelleme opposed.

<u>Vote taken by Roll Call:</u>
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*

Wendy Hudson *Aye*
Michael Misurelli *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Joseph Topham *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Nay*
Abby De Molina *Aye (remote participation)*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Chair Barry Rector *Aye*

B. Update, NOAA Right Whale Speed Restriction Legislation
Discussion: The Commission members received updates to NOAA's speed restriction legislation. The Town has sent letters signed by Chair Rector, opposing the speed rule to various government agencies and that higher authorities have been paying attention to the issue which will be helpful.

C. Committee Reports

- **Rural Policy Advisory Committee**
- **Capital Program Committee**
- **Affordable Housing Trust**
- **Contract Review Committee of Human Services**
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**
- **Harbor Plan Update Committee**
- **Madaket Area Plan Workgroup**
- **Town Area Plan Workgroup**
- **Others**

IX. <u>Other Business</u>
None

X<u>. Adjournment</u>
Motion/Vote: Ms. Iverson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56PM. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Kitchener and the motion was carried unanimously.

<u>Vote taken by Roll Call:</u>
Vice-Chair Nat Lowell *Aye*
Dave Iverson *Aye*
Wendy Hudson *Aye*
John Kitchener *Aye*
Brook Mohr *Aye*
Kristina Jelleme *Aye*
Bert Johnson *Aye (remote participation)*
Barry Rector *Aye*

Submitted By: Catherine Ancero