

WILSON/ DEERFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(WDAC)
VIRTUAL MEETING
December 2, 2021
Regular Meeting

APPROVED MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alvin Bingham called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Present were committee members, Tyler Cote, Kathleen Woodward, Charles Jackson and Karen Zak. Absent: Lakisha Hyatt and Kim McCloud.

Staff: Jim Burke, Economic Development Director and Flavia Rey de Castro, Community Development Specialist;

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Capital Improvements Plan - comments and suggestions from committee members regarding capital projects in the neighborhood

Rey de Castro referred to the Capital Improvements Plan document she had shared with committee members via email indicating that the town was hoping to receive suggestions on projects to be considered. Burke indicated that these projects would be implemented sometime in the next six years with a minimum value of \$100,000. He noted these would be for a physical improvement of the neighborhood. Burke explained that the Engineering Department typically receives submissions on December. Zak asked if speeding enforcement would be considered a capital improvement. Burke indicated he was unsure but that he believes it is an operating cost rather than a physical improvement. Zak clarified her question asking if it was feasible to request speed bumps. Burke noted he would have to confirm with engineering before giving an answer. Bingham indicated that in the past he headed an effort to request a speed bump on his street and that he was recommended to do a petition. He noted that after he gathered signatures nothing came out of it. He suggested the committee invite someone from the town to explain their approach towards speed bumps. Zak noted that this issue has been raised in past committee meetings and also in the Windsor Facebook groups. She emphasized this is an issue in the neighborhood that should be addressed. Jackson noted that in Wilson Avenue speeding is an issue as well. Bingham suggested this topic to be added to an upcoming agenda. Cote asked if the projects from the Capital Improvements Plan will be open for public comment. He suggested for speed bumps to be added on the current project of improvements to Route 159. Burke noted that this project is designated for FY26. Bingham indicated that the median on Route 159 needed to be worked on, noting that many trees that were in the median are no longer there. The

group agreed to make recommendations by a deadline in December to be set by Rey de Castro.

b) Committee Member Recruitment

Rey de Castro noted that in the last few months the committee was barely been able to meet quorum to hold meetings. She noted that although the group currently has seven members, it is key that the group helps with recruitment of new members. She noted that there is a requirement that there are only openings for residents who are either registered republicans or unaffiliated. Rey de Castro indicated that if they know anyone interested to put them in touch with her. Zak asked if there was a flier for members to share on social media. Rey de Castro indicated she would share the flier on social media. Cote noted that he had learned about WDAC because of a previous survey that was conducted. He suggested exploring that avenue as well. Rey de Castro indicated she wasn't really sure when public input would be required for the Wilson Gateway Park design. Burke noted that the next step for the park would be for the Town Manager to request approval from Town Council to spend funds for the park design. He noted that probably public input won't be sought until after a design team is on board. He was assuming this wouldn't take place until May.

c) Review and Adopt Annual Meeting Schedule for 2022

Rey de Castro read the proposed meeting dates for 2022. Zak moved to adopt the Annual Meeting Schedule for 2022. The motion was seconded by Cote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lee from Wilson Avenue indicated that even though there are No Parking signs on his street, people park there all the time without any consequences. He also complained about people speeding on his street. Bingham noted he had concerns about the lack of police enforcement and suggested that the committee invite the Police Chief and Town Manager to an upcoming meeting. Cote suggested sending a committee member to a Town Council meeting to address this issue in a documented fashion. Bingham noted that the best course of action would be to invite the Police Chief and Town Manager to a WDAC meeting for the time being. Jackson suggested a subcommittee is created to look into the need for speed bump. Bingham agreed and suggested the subcommittee meet before the January meeting.

4. ITEMS FROM THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Woodward provided a summary of the walkthrough she did at the Riverfront Recapture site in Wilson. She noted that at the entrance to the site, on Meadow Street, there will be a development built. She indicated there is no clarity on what specifically will be done there. She explained how the site will connect to the

Wilson Boat Launch and noted that there is a small cove that will be enlarged and utilized for swimming, paddle boarding, canoeing, and kayaking. She also indicated that this site will connect the Hartford riverfront walk with Windsor.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Rey de Castro notified committee members of an upcoming workshop on the Affordable Housing Plan for Windsor. She also updated them on town-wide COVID-19 vaccination rates for the total population and for eligible population. She also provided information on upcoming Recreational Services and Wilson Library Programs.

6. APPROVAL OF 9/23/21 MINUTES

Zak moved to accept the 9/23/21 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cote.

Motion passed 5-0-0

7. ADJOURNMENT

Jackson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53PM.