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OFFICE OF THE MANAGER

Minutes of Economic Development Chapter  
Sub-Committee of Planning Commission

Members Present: Walter Clark, Michael Knoras, George McNaughton

Meeting Opened at 5:30 pm on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Selectman's Room of the Springfield Town Hall and meeting concluded at 7:15.

Purpose of the meeting was to review the changes made at the last meeting and to make any final changes in the draft to be submitted to the Plan Commission as a whole.

The introductory/historical section was reviewed, there were disparate opinions as to whether much of the historical information was helpful. It was decided that further time spent on the section was not helpful. The paragraph regarding the interrelationship of the regional plan and the town plan is to be moved up to be appended to the opening paragraph because of its importance. Its duplication later was to be deleted.

A paragraph on the mobility and commuting distance which had been inadvertently deleted was restored.

In the assessment list of strengths, the words "superb" and "excellent" are to be replaced with the word "good".

In the "Economic Health" section reference to employment figures and addition costs were to be deleted

In the section entitled:

"Downtown: Central Business District" the word "ignite" was to be replaced with the word "promote" and the word "character" added after the word "ambience". The last sentence in "Specific Strategies Downtown Central Business Area" was extensively discussed with regards to the portion which read "unless under specific control of the Springfield Housing Authority and linked to retail development." It was decided to restore that exception to the general rule of discouraging residential, but to mark it with a comment requesting that the whole Plan Commission specifically consider the sentence carefully.

Since the last meeting, the Zoning Administrator had sent out a copy of a prior meeting of the Plan Commission indicating that the Plan Commission had decided that the instead of a separate Health chapter, that it should be addressed in the Economic Development Chapter. There was considerable discussion about that. George McNaughton recalled that over his objection the Plan Commission had made that decision. Mike Knoras disputed that he had made such a motion and certainly didn't agree with that decision feeling that it was in fact deserving of its own Chapter, to which Walter Clark concurred. George McNaughton had prepared and presented a draft segment to be inserted into the Chapter entitled "Health and Rehabilitation Industry." This draft was read and discussed by the committee. Walter Clark inquired as to what "clinical" meant in this context and it was explained. The entire committee approved of the language of the segment, but it was decided that a comment should be noted in the margin

of the draft by this section indicating that the sub-committee believed that an entire chapter of the Town Plan should be devoted to the Health and Rehabilitation Industry.

George McNaughton was asked to prepare a final draft in accordance with the discussions, and that it would be circulated to the entire committee. If there were no objections, he would then submit it digitally to the entire Plan Commission before the next meeting and provide the Zoning Administrator with a hard-copy to reproduce.

Meeting concluded at 7:15 p.m.