

# Barre City Planning Commission

## May 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

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Present: Michael Hellein (Chair), Joe Reil (Secretary), Rosemary Averill, Raylene Meunier, David Sichel, Becky Wigg

Absent: Amanda Gustin (Vice Chair)

Staff: Janet Shatney (Director of Planning, Permitting & Assessing)

Visitors: Representative Peter Anthony

1. Call to order - 5:30 PM

2. Adjustments to the agenda

No adjustments to the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes

I. April 13, 2023 view draft minutes

**Meunier moves to approve; Hellein seconds, unanimous in favor.**

4. Public comment (for something not on the agenda)

None.

5. New business

**Sichel moves to enter public hearing; Reil seconds, unanimous in favor.**

I. Open Public Hearing for draft revisions of the Unified Development Ordinance for Accessory Dwelling Units Section 3202

i. Opening Remarks by the Planning Commission

ii. Presentation of the draft revisions to Section 3202

Shatney discusses previous adjustments to Ordinance for Accessory Dwelling Units, based on State recommendations and summarizing changes included in the marked-up version in the Agenda Packet.

iii. Questions and answers, any testimony

Sichel asks if recent changes being discussed for the State Statute will impact any of our revisions, Shatney confirms they will not. For public

comment, Rep. Anthony comments to thank us for considering these changes and to urge us to move forward with it.

iv. Decision to close or recess public hearing

**Averill moves to close hearing; Hellein seconds; unanimous in favor.**

v. Decision to vote to forward draft revisions of Section 3202 to the City Council for consideration of a first reading

**Reil moves to forward draft revisions to City Council; Sichel seconds; unanimous in favor.**

II. Close Public Hearing when no further comments or actions needed.

Public Hearing closed.

6. Confirm date of next meeting

I. June 8, 2023

7. Staff updates

Updates listed with agenda. Shatney calls attention to the hearing re: St. Monica's request to demolish the 6 West Street building, the Environmental Court ruled in favor of St. Monica's so they will move ahead with the demolition.

Hellein asks about code enforcement and how that will be applied, Shatney indicates this discussion is still ongoing.

Hellein also asks about The Meltdown's request for a patio. The request was rescinded due to delays at the DRB. There was further discussion around whether a patio should be considered as an Accessory Structure and perhaps the standards are too strict and should be reconsidered.

8. Roundtable

Wiig asks about the status of the two grants we've previously applied for, Shatney says that the RFPs are still in progress.

Rep. Anthony mentions a recent ACCD Housing Initiative meeting that he attended and indicates it's something we should look into. Info available here:  
<https://accd.vermont.gov/homesforall>

Shatney thanks all of the members who have reapplied to maintain membership on the Planning Commission.

9. Adjourn

5:56 PM; **Sichel moves to adjourn; Meunier seconds; unanimous in favor.**