

Richmond Planning Board Meeting  
Town Hall  
Minutes  
February 10, 2020

Members present: Richard Bell, Douglas Bruce, John Hanson (Chairman), Katherine Keenum, Peter Lopez

Mr. Hanson opened the meeting at 6:30 P.M.

1. The first item on the agenda, an ANR application, was deferred to the next meeting because Peter Nikitas of Foresight had called to say it was not ready.
2. Mr. Bell moved to approve the minutes of January 13, 2020, as is. Mr. Bruce seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 5-0.
3. Mr. Hanson reported that he had been invited to a meeting of the Long-Range Sustainability Working Group (LRSWG) on January 21, 2020. He and Mr. Bell both attended. Housing had been a topic discussed. Once the LRSWG posts its minutes, he said, the Planning Board could review and discuss them.
4. Mr. Hanson had also attended a meeting of the Road Advisory Committee on January 27, 2020, as the Planning Board's representative on that committee. The agenda had been to review plans for dealing with mud on Richmond's unpaved roads as they freeze and thaw more frequently.
5. Mr. Hanson presented information on the number and location of houses in Richmond valued by the town tax assessors at \$175,000 or less. A general discussion of topics related to housing followed, with a focus on whether the Planning Board could or should do anything to make it possible for more workers to buy, build, or rent in Richmond. The relation of housing policy to a town Master Plan was also discussed.
6. Mr. Lopez said that he had found the existing Master Plan (1996) to be interesting for historical background and its efforts to present a variety of perspectives, but it was too long to be effective and not many people knew about it anyway. He expressed a strong belief that the Board as a team and the town in general needed a current vision of guiding principles on which to make policy. He suggested that Board members could be a voice at LRWSG meetings and with the BOS to identify key points that needed development.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine Keenum, Clerk