



# TOWN OF THOMPSON

## Planning & Development

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### REGULAR MEETING- MSRAC Mill Sites Redevelopment Advisory Committee (MSRAC)

Friday, June 11, 2021 – 9:00 AM

Thompson Town Hall, Seney Room

### MINUTES

Members Attending: J. Blanchette – Chair, K. Beausoleil, B. Davis, S. Lewis, N. O’Leary

Staff Attending: T. Penn-Gesek – Director of Planning & Development; A. St. Onge – First Selectman

1. CALL TO ORDER – 9:06 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. April 9, 2021 Regular Meeting

B. Davis moves/M. O’Leary accepts the minutes as presented. Motion passes unanimously

3. CORRESPONDENCE – none

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

a. Blain Road Intersection wetlands permit

- The plans from Provost & Rovero were submitted to the Wetlands Agent for review & approval. The application was on the agenda for the 8 June IWC meeting. ([Meeting minutes for IWC](#)). The application requires only Agent approval, not the approval of the full IWC. The Wetlands Agent has indicated her intention to approve the application.
- The current proposed timeline for the project is autumn of 2021, dependent on DPW progress with their primary construction project.

b. Development of 630 Riverside Drive

- J. Blanchette took a call from a party interested in the parcel and referred the individual to broker P. Lange and LEP W. Bugden for more information.
- K. Beausoleil states that he believes interest in the parcel will accelerate once the project at 929 Riverside is substantially underway.
- There is discussion regarding a possible role for the Eastern CT Land Bank, in the future.

c. Affordable Housing Plan survey

- T. Penn-Gesek reports that the survey is closed and the results have been tallied. 114 individuals responded to the survey. There is some dissonance between the open-ended comments collected (which showed more negativity toward the project) and the statistical results (which were more moderate, leaning in favor of improving housing affordability). She will continue to work with J. Guskowski of Tyche Planning & Policy Group, along with the project working group, on next steps, which will at some point include a public information presentation.

d. Future committee projects/grants?

- The BAR Grant is drawing to a close, with less than \$5,000 remaining to expend. The last of the funds is designated for Freeman CO to prepare the bid documents. J. Blanchette poses an open question as to what is next for the Committee to look for, vis a vis grants to fund projects
- T. Penn-Gesek will look for relevant NOFOs as they are announced. There are several Brownfield related grants which are announced annually, for assessment or cleanup.
- B. Davis asks if there is a role that the ECLB could play in seeking grant funding for 630 Riverside, possibly in partnership with a private developer.

6. MEMBER COMMENTS – none additional

7. ADJOURNMENT – 9:33 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Blanchette, Chairperson