

**Town of Amherst  
Planning Commission Minutes  
May 6, 2015**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson June Driskill in the Council Chambers of the new Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street at 7:30 PM on May 6, 2015. It was noted that a quorum was present as indicated below:

A Kevin Belcher	P William Jones
P June Driskill	P Kenneth Bunch
A Ted Finney	P Rachel Thompson
P Clifford Hart	

Town Manager Jack Hobbs was present in his capacity as Secretary to the Commission.

Amended minutes of the April 1, 2015 Commission meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Hart, and carried 5-0 according to the following:

Kevin Belcher	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Aye
Ted Finney	Absent	Rachel Thompson	Aye
Clifford Hart	Aye		

**Comprehensive Plan**

Kelly Hitchcock from Region 2000 Local Government Council came forward to discuss her recent work on the comprehensive plan update project. Ms. Hitchcock agreed to send an amended document to the Town for further review.

**Regional Planning Commissioners Event**

Commissioners were advised that the Region 2000 Local Government Council would be sponsoring a session for the region's planning commissioners on June 4th at 4:00 PM. The event would allow for a 5 to 10 minute presentation from each commission on its activities followed by a roundtable discussion. The location is to be announced in the coming weeks.

**Moore Variance Application - 120 Troopers Trail**

The Commissioners discussed an application from Mark Moore for property located at 120 Troopers Trail (TM#96A5-A-4B, zoned General Residential District R-2) for a variance to Section 18.1-804 of the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. If approved, an addition to an existing dwelling could be built to within 20' of the rear property line instead of maintaining a 35' separation between the proposed construction and the adjacent lot as required by the Ordinance. It was noted that the Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on the application at 6:00 PM on May 19, 2015 in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 South Main Street. Per §18.1-1006.02 of the Town Code, the Commission has the opportunity to review and comment on the application but no action was taken on the matter.

**Ambriar Traffic Study**

The Commission asked the Secretary to investigate the possibility of updating the Ambriar traffic study due increased traffic from the Centra development.

**Sidewalks**

After discussing the recent increases in pedestrian traffic and concerns for their safety, the Commission asked the Secretary to investigate the status of the sidewalk planning on U.S. Route 60.

**Concerns of Staff**

The Town Manager reported that he plans to work on updating the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance to address the state code variance rule changes concurrently with pending Amherst County work on the same issue.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM on a motion by Mr. Hart that was seconded by Mr. Bunch and carried 5-0 according to the following:

Kevin Belcher	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Aye
Ted Finney	Absent	Rachel Thompson	Aye
Clifford Hart	Aye		

\_\_\_\_\_  
June Driskill, Chairperson

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_