

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
HELD BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
MARCH 17, 2014**

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Eric Prause, Chair
Andy Kidd, Vice Chair
Horace Brown, Secretary

Alternates: Susan Shanbaum (sitting)
Julian Stoppelman (sitting)
Donald Palmer

Absent: Michael Stebe
Chirag Thaker

Also Present: Mark Pellegrini, Director of Planning
Ginger MacHattie, Recording Secretary

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. The Secretary read the legal notice for the application when the call was made.

SIDEWALK AND CURB PLAN 2014-2019 – proposed amendments to the Town Sidewalk and Curb Plan

Mr. Pellegrini explained that the Planning and Zoning Commission reviews and adopts a sidewalk plan for the Town of Manchester every five years. That plan determines where new sidewalks will be installed when there are new subdivisions and developments as well as guiding the Town's sidewalk replacements and extensions. The development standards requirements are contained in the public improvement standards.

Jeff LaMalva, Town Engineer, reviewed the locations that the Public Works staff feels should be changed. They include additions or removals at the following locations: Deming Street between Hale and Tolland Turnpike, Bolton Center Road, South Main Street, Hillstown Road, Ralph/Robert neighborhood, Lydall Street, Clearview Terrace, Hackmatack at South Main, St. Paul/Plaza Drive neighborhood, and Green Hill/Monroe Streets.

In response to a question from Mr. Stoppelman, Mr. Pellegrini explained that if a new street is built as part of development, sidewalks will be required on one side of the street.

In response to comments by Mr. Brown regarding rail trails, Mr. LaMalva said the trails should come off of the map as it is related to sidewalks.

In response to a question from Ms. Shanbaum, Mr. LaMalva explained that removal of sidewalks usually occurs as part of a road reconstruction project.

Mr. Brown commented that it would be too bad if the walking trails were left off the map. He thinks the map should be viewed in terms of walkability.

Mr. Palmer thinks the Commission should take the map as it is and leave the bike trails.

In response to questions from Mr. Palmer, Mr. LaMalva explained that if a small gap is being filled in, the Town sends a notice to the area residents informing them that a sidewalk is being installed. For larger projects, public information meetings are held.

Mr. Brown noted some text changes.

Mr. Prause asked if any member of the public wished to speak either in favor of or in opposition to this application. No member of the public came forward at this time.

The Chairman closed the Public Hearing portion of the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

**NOTICE: A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING CAN
BE HEARD IN THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT.**