

**Town of Lenox  
Planning Board  
August 8, 2017  
Landuse Meeting Room**

**Members present:** Chair Pam Kueber, (PK); Tom Delasco, (TD); Kate McNulty-Vaughan, (KMV); Kameron Spaulding, (KS)

**Member absent with notification:** Deborah Rimmler, (DR)

**Staff present:** Gwen Miller, Land Use Director/Town Planner, (GM); Peggy Ammendola, Land Use Clerk, (PA)

**Also present:** Selectman Ken Fowler (KF) and Mark Smith

The meeting was opened at 6:05 PM.

**Documents presented for this meeting:**

- Lenox Planning Board -Village Parking Review -August 8, 2017

**Minutes-**Review and vote on meeting minutes for July 25, 2017. KMV made a motion to approve with a minor edit. KS seconded the motion and the Commission voted to approve 4-0.

**Recreational Marijuana-**BRPC has confirmed a countywide information session for 6 p.m. August 31st at Lenox Town Hall. Online registration is required.

There was a brief review on the Town's stand with regards to this issue. Voters passed by a large majority the use of recreational marijuana, but regulations would have to be approved at a Town Meeting. KS suggested that the Board not get into any further discussion until after the briefing by BRPC.

**Walking tour of Lenox Village to review and discuss parking plan improvements-**

Continuing the discussion and review from July 11 and July 25, take a walking tour of Lenox Village to look at:

- (1) Proposed interior walking path
- (2) Proposed "master lot"
- (3) View and discuss other potential sites for more parking.

The Board held a brief orientation prior to the walking tour by going thru the Village Parking Review, which included, but was not limited to, the three BETA maps. The tour commenced at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Ammendola

Note: The following details of the walking tour were provided by PK.

Items discussed during “parking tour” of Lenox Village:

**On Main Street – (1) wrapping Curtis and (2) Monument traffic flow idea:**

- Recognition that “green space” drawn in front of Curtis looks like it could encroach on entry/egress into Curtis
- Concern about hard left turn in proposed new layout around Monument
- Mixed support for Monument proposal
- Mixed support for bermed parking on Main Street proposal
- Should we really even focus on this moving forward?

**Walkway:**

- KS explained recommended changes to 2008 plan as we went along
- At “top” near Town Hall, concern about encroaching on privacy of residents at Curtiss
- Need to assess residential privacy issues all along the walk
- Discussion of adding pocket park near “bottom” behind Frankies et.al.
- Expectation that 2008-plan proposed “greenspace” between Church Street café and MacKimmie Co. would go away in favor of maintaining existing parking
- In general: Unanimous support of the idea:
  - Opportunities:
    - Added appeal to visitors
    - Added utility to residents
    - Could encourage further beautification
  - Potential challenges:
    - Cost
    - Execution challenges
    - Resident support for such investments
- Walkway plan is in the Complete Streets plan that will be finalized by Sept. Cost would be about \$800,000, with asphalt paving, 5’ wide. Complete Streets plan lays the groundwork to apply for federal funding.

**“Master” lot and parking in general:**

- Discussion of possibly moving Post Office loading dock to service drive behind the Post Office with entrance via drive next to Frankie’s
- In general: Unanimous support of the idea:
  - Opportunities:
    - Increased number of parking spaces available
    - Improved driving/parking ease
    - Better stormwater and snow management
  - Potential challenges:
    - Cost
    - Cost-per-space added
    - Execution challenges

- Resident support for such investments
- Need to marry 2008-plan walkway design with 2017-proposed Master Lot design
- Need to get actual count of spaces behind Frankie's
- Opportunities to consolidate drives on east side of Church Street
- We did not have time to discuss other possible longer-term parking solutions behind business on east side of Church Street

**Next steps – next meeting:**

- Discuss at next meeting and consolidate comments for next steps to Beta or otherwise.