

ANNUAL REPORT

The Planning Board is a five member elected board who serve five year staggered terms. The Board generally meets at 6:00 P.M. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the first floor hearing room at the town office. All meetings are open to the public and usually may be seen on channel 15 on Mondays at 7:00 P.M. and Tuesdays at 1:00 P.M.

During the year, the Board held twelve meetings and reviewed a total of nine plans. The Planning Board endorsed three ANR Plans (Approval Not Required under the State Subdivision Control Law), resulting in no new residential lots. The board acted on six Planned Developments and issued positive recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals on all six applications; one for an additional retail business at 899 GAR Highway; one for an additional retail business at 732 Less River Avenue; one for an outdoor patio at 1525 Riverside Avenue; one for use of a lot one acre or more at 1400 Brayton Point Road; one for a revised plan at 2756 County Street and one for additional retail businesses at 1004 County Street.

The board acted on three proposed zoning amendments and after holding public hearings on the matter issued favorable recommendations on all three proposed amendments.

During 2012, the board spent a great deal of time meeting with developers on completion of subdivisions. One subdivision was completed in 2012, and Sutherland Drive was accepted as a public way at the May town meeting.

The most significant accomplishment in 2012, was no doubt the initiation and development of a Mix-Use By-law for the Slade's Ferry Avenue Crossing Area. Once this proposed By-law is adopted it will allow the Slade's Ferry Crossing area to transform into a vibrant, attractive, livable pedestrian friendly, mixed use neighborhood. The

development of the Mix-Use By-Law for the Slade's Ferry Crossing Area would not have been possible without the assistance and support from the Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD).

During the year Gary Simons who has served on the board for the past twelve years served as chair and long time member Timothy Turner was appointed Vice-Chair, with John Toulan appointed clerk. We would like to thank John Ferreira, who departure the Board in 2012, for his many years of service to the Board. The Board was fortunate to welcome William Raposa as a member.

In addition to their Planning Board duties, Gary Simons was designated as the Board's representative to the Costal Zone Management Committee and Timothy Turner long time member and Conservation Agent served as the Planning Board's representative to the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and also served on the Somerset Station Re-Use Committee. Robert Rebello was designated as the Planning Board's representative to the Land Acquisition Committee.

Special thanks goes to John Chlorite for his dedication to taping each meeting, and to the Somerset Access TV for providing televised access to Somerset residents. The Board also wishes to express sincere thanks for the support and cooperation that it has received from Town Officials and members of the various Boards and Departments. And of course, many thanks to our secretary, Paula Ramos, for her support throughout the year. The Board members review plans submitted to ensure the proposed developments are in accordance with the bylaws and regulations of the Town. Many other Boards and Departments provide input to this review process. The Board relies on outside

consultants to assist in technical review of many of the projects. The cost of these outside consultants falls to the developer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary D. Simons, Chairman
Timothy Turner, Vice-Chairman
John Toulan, Clerk
Robert Rebello
William Raposa

