

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 7:00pm

MINUTES

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82555248288>

Meeting ID: 825 5524 8288

Members Present: Jaci Allen, Brian Loeb, Ernie Ciccotelli, Vince Crow, Jeff Goodrich, Stuart Richards

Public Rob Gere, Bob Pape

Meeting Opened: 7:02 pm

1. Approve Agenda: Ciccotelli recommended postponing the organizational meeting until the SB appoints a new member of the PC. Loeb moved, and Goodrich seconded a motion to approve the agenda without item #3. Motion carried 6-0.

Goodrich moved and Ciccotelli seconded a motion to nominate Crow to take the minutes for this meeting until secretary is established at the next meeting. Motion Carried 6-0.

2. Public Comment: No public Comment.
3. Postponed until next meeting.
4. Assessment of CRS status and scope of work

Goodrich explained how the town can reduce its financial burden after damage from a flooding incident. The Vermont Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) provides State funding to match Federal Public Assistance after federally-declared disasters. Eligible public costs are reimbursed by federal taxpayers at 75% and the State of Vermont will contribute 12.5% toward the costs. If the town follows the guidelines for FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) the State will contribute 17.5% of the total cost.

For reference, repair costs for flooding in July 2017 were approximately \$4 million.

The first step to apply is to submit the Community Rating System Application Letter of Interest and Quick Check.

Implementation will include documentation of permits, education, changes to zoning regulations, and participation of the Selectboard.

Goodrich suggested that we need to engage volunteers to help expediate the process.

The CRS checklist will be sent to members of the PC for review.

5. Announcements and Updates AHSC update

Loeb provided an update on recent activity of the AHSC. The AHSC is engaging with local churches to discuss the option of parishioners donating land for potential home building, which would be like a Habitat for Humanity building process. This idea has been executed in other towns in Vermont and is a promising idea.

Loeb also noted that the option of a building site north of the Transfer Station is still being explored.

6. Approve 04/11/2023 Minutes

Goodrich recommended a change to the minutes on Item #3 to reinforce that CRS is the direction the PC has chosen, and then moved to approve the minutes. Loeb seconded. Motion passed 4-0 with Crow and Richards abstaining.

7. Future Meeting Schedule, and Agenda

a. Next meeting 6/13/23

b. Topics suggested: organizational meeting, CRS work elements and sequence, process to address rewrite of zoning regs, updates to flood regulations suggested by Kyle Katz, density study and wastewater study.

c. Loeb recommended including CRS and Organizational meeting.

8. Motion to adjourn Crow and Goodrich seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

APPROVED 06-27-2023