

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2017, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Brink, Horwitz, Goodrich, Brien, Thoms, Allen (via phone)

Members Absent: Lubell **Clerk:** Phil Dechert

Others: Colin Calloway, Marcia Calloway, Frank Manasek, Stuart Richards, Linda Cook, John Pepper

Jeff Goodrich, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

1. **Approve Agenda** – Approved
2. **Meeting Topics and Goals**
 - a. Review which documents are being distributed for July 13 Hearing
 - b. Review process
 - c. Future meeting dates
3. **Comments from the Public**
 - a. Stuart Richards - Has obtained 250+ names on petition for a town vote to have all Town Plan changes voted on by the Town in the future. It may be submitted to the Town Clerk in the future. He encouraged PC to have multiple public meetings.
 - b. Marcia Calloway – Supported more public meetings but not small meetings as suggested at previous meetings.
 - c. Richards and Frank Manasek requested new public surveys similar to 2005 survey.
4. **Minutes** – 5-25-17 – Approved without changes.
5. **Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence**
 - a. Correspondence
 - i. Four documents received from Marcia Calloway and Stuart Richards dated June 3, 2017 - Cover Letter and mark ups of Town Plan documents were distributed to the members and reviewed. They have been placed in “2017 Town Plan Comments” folder on PC Web page.
 - ii. Emails between Lubell and Richards dated 6-5-17 regarding town plan were distributed to the members and reviewed.
 - b. Updates -
6. **Town Plan Updates** –
 - a. Dechert presented a history of Town Plan adoptions and re-adoptions, since 1986 and how the process has been impacted by changes in state statutes and policies. What would have previously been a simple re-adoption of the 2011 Town Plan has instead required additional information be added for confirmation by the Regional Planning Commission. He also discussed some potential issues if the Town Plan is not updated and confirmed regarding eligibility for reimbursements of disaster funding.
 - b. Goodrich added some additional comments related to the importance of the Town Plan in state funding and in Act 250 review.

- c. Dechert reviewed the three main documents:
 - i. Formatted draft of the updated Town Plan;
 - ii. A text version with redline mark-ups based on the 2011 Plan with proposed 2017 changes; and
 - iii. A TRORC 2013 Enhanced Consultation Report with annotations of changes in the 2017 update.
- d. The current draft documents will not be changed until after the July 13 hearing. Submitted comments will be collected until after the hearing. Comments submitted by email or writing will be posted on the PC web page.

7. Town Plan Hearing Preparation – Postponed to next regular meeting

8. Zoning Update – Postponed to future meeting

9. Future Meeting Schedule & Agenda

- a. June 22, 2017 – Regular Meeting - Plan for public hearing
- b. Ongoing Zoning Review

10. Comments from the Public

Adjournment: 8:17 PM

Phil Dechert, Clerk

APPROVED 6-22-17

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, June 22, 2017 – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, July 13, 2017 – Town Plan Public Hearing

List of future action items:

- a. Plan for public hearing - warning, agenda, materials, advertising
- b. Ongoing Zoning Review

Planning Commission Agendas & Minutes available at: <http://norwich.vt.us/planning-commission/>