

MINUTES
Planning Commission
Norwich, VT
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Members Present: Daniel Johnson (Chair), Lynn McGrew, Alison McRee, Ralph Hybels, Jaye Pershing-Johnson, Adele Fulton
Members Absent: Jeffrey Mathias, Richard Stucker, Thomas Gray
Staff: Phil Dechert
Public: Craig Layne, Lee Michaelides

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:43 p.m.

1. Approve Agenda

It was unanimously agreed to switch items 5 and 4 so that the Town Plan issues certainly will be discussed tonight. Agenda approved unanimously as amended.

2. Comments from the Public - none

3. Announcements and Correspondence - none

4. Town Plan

Town Plan Re-adoption

P. Dechert handed out a document he had prepared, "Re-adoption of Town Plan," with childcare section as required by the VT legislature.

Action: D. Johnson suggested changing "goal" to add "integrate childcare issues into the planning process" from the subsequent paragraph and then to eliminate the rest of the "objective" section. This change was **unanimously approved**.

Action: There was **unanimous agreement** to approve a change suggested by A. Fulton to change item 5 in "Recommended Actions" to "Encourage private day care facilities to consider seeking grants funds...", leaving the remainder the same.

P. Dechert reported that, in fact, the town can apply for municipal planning grants to write a town plan even without the town plan being re-adopted.

Action: J. Johnson moved to re-adopt the town plan change language as amended by A. Fulton and to schedule a hearing on re-adopting the town plan on August 14 at 6:30pm. Second by A. McRee and **passed unanimously**.

A. Fulton agreed to provide the acting scribe with the particular language for changes to the town plan re-adoption document, for inclusion in these minutes.

Survey 2005 analysis by consultant

D. Johnson, J. Johnson, and R. Hybels reported on kick-off conference-call meeting with the selected consultant, Riva Rondorf.

5. Zoning Regulation Revisions

P. Dechert presented his draft of Section 3.12 of the Fragile Features section. C. Layne and L. Michaelides participated in discussion as representatives of the Norwich Conservation Commission. By unanimous consent, to defer to a later meeting at which more members may participate.

Article VII (Definitions) was discussed, based on the draft of October 24, 2005. It was agreed that a revised version is needed that will incorporate changes that are well-documented in minutes of previous meetings. P. Dechert will deliver that new draft. He will also pay particular attention to any definitions that appear to need to be revisited vis a vis state regulations (e.g., those related to affordable housing). He also requested that any members with additional revisions to suggest send him those suggestions prior to the next meeting.

6. Minutes

Action: A. McRee moved to accept the minutes of June 22, 2006 (second by L. McGrew).

Action: A. Fulton moved to "not include times of individual members comings and goings in the Members Present section, but to continue including that information in the body of the minutes. Further, the minutes will not reflect original times planned or actual times spent on particular agenda items other than Call to Order and Adjournment." Motion seconded by J. Johnson. **Approved unanimously.**

There was **unanimous consent (except for R. Hybels who abstained**, having not been present at the meeting in question) to have those changes made to the June 22 minutes.

There was similar consensus to strike from the minutes of June 22 any items that were not actually discussed but were on the agenda.

It was also agreed to delete the sentence "A potential motion was discussed..." and other changes suggested by A. Fulton.

[note to J. Mathias: Adele has these changes for you to incorporate]

Meeting Adjournment

Procedure: Motion by A. Fulton to adjourn, seconded by J. Johnson. **Unanimous approval** at approximately 9:45pm.

Future Meetings

July 27, August 10, August 14 (special meeting), August 24

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ralph Cushman Hybels, Acting Scribe

Approved: October 26, 2006

Jeffrey D. Mathias
clerk, Norwich Planning Commission